MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 JANUARY 1982

Sudan

SUNA reported that school students protesting the cancellation of sugar subsidies started a huge fire that destroyed 120 shops in Khartoum's local market. In a statement carried by SUNA, the Education and Guidance Ministry announced that as a result of the demonstrations, all elementary, secondary and intermediate schools in Khartoum district are closed until further notice. INA, which reported the disturbances before SUNA, said eyewitnesses had seen violent clashes between demonstrators and policemen supported by military units and also reported intensive activity by ambulances, indicating casualties.

Egypt

Cabinet Meeting -- MENA reported that the new Cabinet held its first meeting under the chairmanship of President Husni Mubarak. Afterward, Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif noted that Mubarak had briefed the ministers on the principles of work to be followed, stressing the need for honesty and discipline and calling for candor with the public and avoidance of propaganda. Mubarak said the government should focus attention on the achievement of political, economic and social stability, giving special consideration to economic issues, Ash-Sharif added. The information minister also reported that Prime Minister Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din had said the government welcomes hearing opinions it does not agree with in order to benefit from them. According to MENA, Muhyi ad-Din said after the meeting that the change in economic ministers will not affect Egypt's open-door economic policy, but that production needs should take priority over luxury goods.

'Abd al-Majid Under Scrutiny -- Citing AL-AHRAM, MENA reported that the public prosecutor is to study the affairs of former Deputy Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid and two other former officials in connection with the Rashad 'Uthman corruption case.

As-Sadat Trial Lawyers -- According to AFP, the lawyers acting for 24 defendants charged with involvement in the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat have have decided to resume the defense of their clients.

Mubarak-Percy Meeting -- MENA reported that President Mubarak met with U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Charles Percy.

Libya

Reported Assassination Attempt -- Athens Armed Forces radio reported that the Libyan Embassy in Athens had described as "inaccurate" press reports about an attempt to assassinate Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Assassination Squad Comment -- According to Tripoli radio, FBI Director William Webster's recent statement that the FBI was unable to confirm that a Libyan assassination squad had been sent to the United States to kill President Ronald Reagan proves that U.S. administration allegations against Libya are false and testify to President Reagan's "foolishness" and "superficial mentality."

Al-'Ubaydi Foreign Policy Speech -- In a speech to the General People's Congress, broadcast by Tripoli radio, 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, said Libya had been forced to reconsider its policy of nonalignment because of the "organized, continuous campaign" waged against it ever since the Reagan administration took office. He cited as examples U.S. accusations against Libya that "have no foundation in truth," alleged U.S. plots to assassinate Al-Qadhdhafi and the U.S.-Libyan confrontation in the Gulf of Sidra. Asserting that Libya does not seek war or join axes, Al-'Ubaydi said it will remain neutral as long as it is not subjected to U.S. pressures, challenges or provocations. Otherwise, he added, Libya will have no alternative but to ally with the "enemy of our enemy." He concluded by appealing to the United Nations, the nonaligned group and the European nations to put an end to U.S. "aggression and arrogance" in order to help protect Libyan neutrality and nonalignment.

Golan Heights

Citing Druze residents of Syria, IDF radio reported that PDRY troops have recently been deployed alongside Syrian forces in the Golan Heights area. However, Gen Emanuel Erskine, chief of staff of the UN observers in the Middle East, said in a statement broadcast by IDF radio that UN observers have not noticed any changes or movement of forces on the Syrian side of the Israeli-Syrian border.

Iraq-PDRY

Citing an Iraqi Foreign Ministry statement, INA announced that Iraq and the PDRY have agreed to exchange ambassadors in a move to improve bilateral relations. The ambassadors were withdrawn in June 1979 after an incident in which PDRY forces allegedly stormed the Iraqi Embassy in Aden while searching for the assassins of an Iraqi professor teaching there. The Iraqis responded by detaining PDRY Embassy staff in Baghdad.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Reaction to Iraqi Call -- Commenting on Iraq's call to Arab nations to sever relations with Iran on the grounds that Iranian embassies have become centers of terrorism, the Iranian deputy foreign minister said in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio that the objective was to isolate and put pressure on Iran because of its victories over Iraq. Such "conspiracies," he continued, are actually planned by agents of U.S. imperialism and provide the pretext for increasing the presence of the United States and its mercenaries in the region.

Military Situation -- According to an Iranian Joint Staff communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, Iranian forces killed or wounded 1,000 Iraqis during operations in the Nowsud area. An Iraqi Armed Forces communique, carried by INA, mentioned clashes in the Sumar area and claimed that Iraqi ground fire downed two Iranian fighters on the southern front.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOP: ISRAEL PLACES HAWK MISSILES IN BORDER AREA

JN041735 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Southern Lebanon — Reports from the occupied border strip say that the Zionist enemy bulldozed several houses in Hanin in Tyre District in the western sector and built military barracks to the east of the same village.

The enemy is continuing its military concentrations and intensifying its fighter plane overflights in all the southern areas.

Zionist boats were also sighted within Lebanese territorial waters.

It is to be recalled that the Zionist enemy installed a Hawk missile network in the village of (As-Sunufi), which is parallel to Kafr Killa in the eastern sector, which is within the framework of its aggressive preparations to create tension in the region.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES WORKERS ON ANNIVERSARY

NC021309 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] On the occasion of the 17th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution, Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] addressed a message to the Palestinian workers and to the as-samid [Palestinian factories in Lebanon] in which he said:

I greet you on the occasion of this new year and the anniversary of your great revolution which was detonated and most wisely, bravely and shrewdly led by the revolutionary vanguards of your movement, the Palestinian national liberation movement -- Fatah. These vanguards believed in the cause and the people and became the movement of all the Palestinian people because of their unlimited sacrifices and giving and the outpouring of blood, which constitute the torch of the revolution and its guidance, the flag of hope and a unique example for us and all the peoples struggling for their freedom and independence.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added that the steadfastness of our people inside our occupied territory, their adherence to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of our people, their rejection of all attempts to implement the autonomy plot and the imposition of the so-called civilian administration, their valiant and bold resistance to the occupation and their transformation of the stones of our sacred land into means of resistance and steadfastness and of clinging to the land are the most important chain in our struggle and an incentive for us to continue our struggle, no matter how much the plots are intensified and escalated.

The glorious uprising of our kinsmen inside the occupied territory constitutes the solid iron dam in the face of all plots. Together with the steadfastness of our heroic revolutionaries at the first confrontation lines and our vigilant political movement, this uprising constitutes a guarantee for the continuation of our revolution. It is a main guarantee that all plots will be defeated and the great victory will be achieved.

Brother Abu 'Ammar went on: Brother workers of Palestine and all sons of our proud people: We must cling to the rifle and adhere to the aims of our struggle. We must cling more and more to the rifle so that it may become an indivisible part of our life, because it is the only way our struggle can be victorious and take us to Palestine, the homeland. Let all hands and all efforts unite for victory and paint a bright future for our people on the land of the fathers and forefathers, on the land of Palestine, all of Palestine.

Concluding his message, Brother Abu 'Ammar called on the Palestinian workers inside and outside the occupied homeland to unite to achieve the victory and write history so that our people may return to their land, Palestine, and determine their fate on it by establishing the independent Palestinian state led by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

'ARAFAT SPEAKS AT SIDON MILITARY PARADE 3 JAN

JN031937 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1635 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, at rally and military parade held at Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd Camp in Sidon on 3 January 1982 -- recorded]

[Text] Sisters and brothers, you who are standing now on the land of heroic southern Lebanon, you Lebanese and Palestinians who are standing on the land of steadfast southern Lebanon, have demonstrated to your Arab nation by your lofty, grand and glorious stand and by your unified ranks, hordes and processions in this frontline trench that you are not only defending Palestine and Lebanon but also your Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf. Indeed, you are defending your nation from the ocean to the Gulf at this difficult time.

The fighter in the joint forces tells the Arab nation: I do not want your prayers; I want your swords. Indeed, this is what the fighter here is saying. These were the very words said previously by Salah ad-Din when he stood, as you, my brothers and comrades in arms in the joint forces, are standing now in Qal'at ash-Shaqif [Beaufort Castle]. Salah ad-Din stood in this castle and uttered the same words to this nation. He said: I do not want your prayers; I want your swords. Here we are now repeating the words of Salah ad-Din. He said these words in the past, and we are saying them at this difficult Arab moment.

Nevertheless, brothers, in your name, Lebanese and Palestinians at this blessed spot, at this camp, As-Summud Camp, Ma'ruf Sa'd Camp, at this pure spot of southern Lebanon only a few kilometers from enemy concentrations [sentence incomplete]. Sharon says he has prepared three divisions to face us. I tell him before you: You can prepare 30 divisions not just 3. What can they do?

Let Sharon remember what happened in the 8-day war. Let him remember what happened in the war of attrition. Let him remember what happened in the 15-day war. If Sharon thinks he can repeat the Deversoir Bulge here, I say to him: Our meat is not edible. Let him mass his three divisions. Let them hold meetings and play the new theatrics of distributing roles with the Americans. But I tell them one thing: They must not think the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance scares us, or the 6th Fleet stationed before us scares us, or the U.S.-Israeli Air Force scares us. Sharon, Begin, Reagan and those around them do not scare us.

I ask them: What happened to As-Sadat? Remember what happened to As-Sadat. The Egyptian people rejected treason. The great Egyptian Army executed As-Sadat and thus vindicated its honor and the honor of the Arab nation from the [Atlantic] Ocean to the Gulf. I say this so it will be heard by other As-Sadats who may be lurking. I tell them that whoever contemplates betraying his Arab nation as As-Sadat did, his fate will be bullets from the guns that just passed in front of us. I say this so it will be heard by everyone, far and near. I say this while we are standing here where it is dangerous. I know it is dangerous, but we are still gathered here. This is to show that we are not afraid any more. If they [the Israelis] think they can scare others in the region, we say that we can scare the entire region.

I say this so they can hear me. Let them come. They are most welcome. Brothers, during the 15-day fighting, they said they stopped the fighting because of pressure from the United States.

I say: No, they stopped the fighting because 35 settlements came under fire for the first time in Arab-Israeli fighting. I tell Sharon: Try again and see if you can make us budge from our position.

Brothers, I know what I am saying because I depend on these Lebanese and Palestinian people whose cohesion symbolizes the greatest unity in Arab history. This Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion, this cohesion between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement. Brother Abu Ma'ruf [addressing son of Ma'ruf Sa'd], this Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion has not only created a miracle but a new dawn for the entire Arab nation. It has created loftiness and pride symbolized by the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces standing in this frontline trench defying the enemy and founding a new dawn and era for our Arab nation. The victory of these joint forces is not a triumph for Lebanon or Palestine, but a triump of the decisive and basic strategic change in the Middle East.

I say this while the 6th Fleet is flexing its muscles before us. Let it flex its muscles. We know that we here are within the range of its guns. But who says we fear guns. As Nahum Goldman said: The frightened Arab no longer exists. The joint forces mark the beginning of a new era; the era of the Arab fighter who scares others. Why does he frighten others, brothers? He does not scare others with his weapons. Indeed, Arab weapons are more than Israeli weapons. This is not what I say, but what U.S., British and Arab statistics say. Arab weapons are more than Israeli weapons. But there is something else we did in the joint forces, brothers. What did we do? We did something new. We performed a new miracle. These joint forces, these Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, did something important. They broke through the barrier of illusion and fear. I tell [words indistinct]: Your theories and map of the region will not work. You must know that the fighter of the joint forces will change your map and the maps of all agents in the Arab region. There will only be one map for our Arab nation, brothers, the one drawn by your rifles. Your rifles will draw the new map in the Arab region.

I say this, brothers, while we know that we are facing difficult, harsh and delicate circumstances. As I said before, we are going through a dark tunnel. There are assassinations, explosions, political conspiracies, military conspiracies, attempts to overrun us and to strike at us in Beirut and wherever Lebanese and Palestinian forces are. We know this, brothers. But believe me, what I see at the end of the tunnel is not just the light of victory, but the minarets and churches of Jerusalem.

I say this so it will be heard by everyone, far and near. The token forces that just passed in front of us express our Arab nation's real willpower, which knows no retreat. Brothers, you will recall that when they hit the (Al-Asliyah) bridge during the 15-day war, the enemies said the joint forces were regrouping and that 'Azmi as-Sughayyar had fled. Where did 'Azmi as-Sughayyar flee? Did he not defeat them? I say this over the loudspeaker so they can hear me. I am saying to Sharon: If you repeat the Az-Zahrani operation, the forces of Egypt of Arabism [Misr al-'Urubah] alongside the Lebanese and Palestinian forces will defeat you once again Az-Zaharani, (Al-Asliyah), Ash-Shaqif and elsewhere, even in Beirut and to the last place, brothers.

I say this, brothers, because we know that this is a difficult and harsh time. We did not deceive anyone, brothers. We did not say that we will have breakfast in one place and dinner in Tel Aviv, or that we will have lunch in one place and dinner in Tel Aviv. We did not say that. We said we will fight a protracted popular liberation war. Time alone will tell. This land is Arab, Arab, Arab, Arab. The land is not only Arab, but will continue to speak Arabic. Begin must know this. He must know that this land will not speak Hebrew. The bones of our forefathers are buried in this land, and the bones of the sons, of the sons, of our sons will be buried in it. He must know this.

The map of this land, brothers, will not be drawn by Sykes Picot, Reagan, Begin, Carter, the EEC or anyone else. The map of this land will be drawn by the fighter in the joint forces. I do not say he is Lebanese or Palestinian. I am referring to any fighter in the joint forces, whether he is Syrian, Palestinian, Lebanese, Egyptian, Algerian, Iraqi, Yemeni, Sudanese, Libyan, Turkish, Pakistani, (?Afghani) or from Bangladesh. The distinctive characteristic of this revolution, brothers, is that (?it is not just Palestinian). This is the Palestinian era, just as we once had the Algerian era during the Algerian revolution, and the Yemeni era during the Yemeni revolution. This is a source of pride for us.

I am saying all this while Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] is next to me and Brother Abu Ma'ruf is also next to me. I like to call him Abu Ma'ruf so as to remember the heroes of our Arab nation; Kamal Junblatt and Ma'ruf Sa'd. I say this, brothers, so it will be heard by everyone, far and near. This revolution has free and honest men from our entire Arab nation. They will fight and fight and fight in this frontline trench. We will continue in the tunnel. Don't tell me 'Azmi or you Hajj, that the tunnel is long or short. Whether it is long or short, we will continue to fight until final victory. Our beloved heroic leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir once said: This revolution is here to stay. I add to this: This revolution is here to stay and to triumph, to triumph, to triumph. We all stand together, brothers.

I am saying this to our steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territory. I am saying this to the children of my country who turned the stones of my country into time bombs scaring the enemy. I am saying this to the heroes in enemy prisons. I know that all of our people are imprisoned, whether they are in the Golan, the border strip, the rest of Sinai, or in Palestine. They are all in one big prison. Still, I address greetings of pride and appreciation to the heroes in the small Israeli prisons and detention camps and tell them: Our rendezvous with you is near. Our rendezvous is in the morning, and the morning is near. Indeed, brothers, the morning is near. The dawn will break and victory will come. It is a revolution until victory.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL URGES NEW ARAB SUMMIT

GF041000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Manama, 4 Jan (WAKH) -- Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council, has called on Arab leaders to hold an Arab summit as soon as possible. He said that the meeting should be frank and that it would be a wise step. He stressed the role Saudi Arabia is currently playing in closing Arab ranks and in removing Arab differences.

In a statement to the Saudi newspaper AL-YAWM published today, the Palestine National Council speaker said five socialist European countries -- Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Poland -- have officially told the PLO they have upgraded the level of the PLO's diplomatic representation in their capitals and they will grant these offices full political and diplomatic immunity.

Mr al-Fahum said: We hope we will receive advanced weapons of better quality from the Soviet Union along with the political and military aid we are receiving.

The Palestine National Council speaker said: Our relations with Iran have become lukewarm following a report on a meeting between the PLO command and former Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, statements about importing weapons from Israel and other matters. He said he hopes the Iraqi-Iranian war will come to an end so they can confront the Zionist enemy, who is able to make use of every available opportunity.

GULF AFFAIRS

LONDON PAPER REPORTS ON GULF SECURITY PLANS

PM310901 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Dec 81 p 1

['Adnan Saddiq "Gulf Bureau" report]

[Excerpts] Salih 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi, adviser to Kuwaiti ruler Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, yesterday made a quick trip to the UAE and Qatar carrying messages to Shaykh Zayid and Shaykh Khalifah in connection with relations and the situation in the area.

An official Kuwait source told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Al-'Atiqi's trip comes following the recent developments in the security situation in the region and deals with Kuwaiti views in this regard.

Observers link the visit of the Kuwaiti ruler's adviser to recent developments in the Gulf and the Gulf rulers' interest in the security of the area, which has become the focus of attention.

In the Sultanate of Oman an official security source told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that new security developments will take place next month, now that the security picture has become clear in the light of the recent developments both in the actual situation and within the framework of Gulf consultations within the Gulf Cooperation Council.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has further learned that security officials in the Gulf have circulated a memorandum to the effect that Iran has once again shown the intention to close the section of the Strait of Hormuz under its control to international shipping, in view of the world's increasing interest in the Iran-Iraq war and as an answer to the uncovering of the recent sabotage operation [in Bahrain].

The Iranian Government considered this idea some time ago but was dissuaded from putting it into effect by an Algerian mediation mission led by a personal envoy of President Chadli Benjedid.

BAHRAIN

SAUDI 'PLOTTERS' TO BE EXTRADITED PER AGREEMENT

LD041234 Kuwait KUNA in English 1105 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 4 Jan (KUNA) -- Bahrain will hand over to Saudi Arabia 12 Saudi nationals accused of taking part in the recently discovered subversive network in that Arab Gulf country, it was reported here Monday.

In a dispatch from Manama, AL-QABAS newspaper said the accused will be extradited in accordance with a security agreement signed between the two countries last month.

Without giving names, the sources said one of the plotters is an official in Bahrain's Ministry of Housing who belongs to a big family. The only Kuwait citizen involved in the plot was identified as Mustafa Muhammad, 26, a student at a British university. Names of seven Omani citizens were not given.

The newspaper report said the accused were detained at the castle building which houses the Interior Ministry and that interrogations were being held in complete secrecy amid strict security.

The report said the Iranian Embassy was involved in the plot by facilitating entry of explosives and weapons in the diplomatic pouches. Bahrain expelled the Iranian ambassador after declaring him personna non grata.

JORDANIAN MINISTER DENOUNCES SABOTAGE PLOT

GF031207 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1125 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Manama, 3 Jan (WAKH) -- Jordanian Interior Minister Sulayman 'Arar has denounced the sabotage plot Bahrain was subjected to recently. Mr 'Arar said the plot is new evidence of racism. The individuals who engineered it have nothing to do with Islam and are not seeking right. Rather, they want to serve the Arab and Islamic nation's enemies and want to sow discord and disputes that serve only Zionists.

In a statement after his meeting with Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah this afternoon, Mr 'Arar said the message he conveyed to the Bahraini amir earlier today deals with the plot Bahrain was subjected to and with Jordan's reiteration of its stand and readiness to place all its resources at Bahrain's disposal.

On his meeting with the Bahraini interior minister, he said: "We exchanged views on issues concerning the Interior Ministries in the two countries and strengthening cooperation between them."

BRIEFS

REFINERY CAPACITY -- Bahraini Development and Justice Minister Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi has said that the capacity of Bahrain's refinery was 259,000 barrels per day during 1981. He said this is a new record because the normal capacity of the refinery is 250,000 barrels per day and that the previous record was set during 1977 when the refinery capacity reached 258,000 barrels per day. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Jan 82 GF]

KUWAIT

OIL PRICE REDUCED TO $32.30 BEGINNING 1 JAN

LD011254 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Jan (KUNA) -- As of today Kuwait is applying the new price for its oil, that is $32.30 per barrel. Kuwait decided to reduce the price per barrel of its oil from $33 to $32.30 in implementation of the decisions agreed upon by the OPEC ministers in their meeting in Abu Dhabi on 9 December which discussed the differentials in oil pricing.

The price of Kuwaiti oil is considered cheaper than the basic price of light Arab oil by $1.70 a barrel. The density of Kuwaiti oil is 31 degrees API. It is a heavy oil.

FRENCH MINISTER CHEYSSON POSTPONES VISIT

LD041232 Kuwait KUNA in English 1147 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Jan (KUNA) -- French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson has postponed a scheduled visit to Kuwait on January 9, it was officially announced here Monday.

Public Health Minister and Acting State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Dr. 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abdallah al-Awadi said that the postponement was due to the French minister's participation in a meeting for the European Common Market's Ministerial Council.

He said that another date for the visit will be fixed later.

PLO ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE FROM 'ARAFAT

LD031410 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1304 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Jan (KUNA) -- The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, today received a message from PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The contents of the message, conveyed by Salim az-Za'nun, deputy chairman of the Palestinian National Council and member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Fatah movement, were not disclosed. As-Zanun announced he will be visiting Iraq, Qatar and Bahrain to hand similar messages to their leaders from 'Arafat.

However, Az-Za'nun said after his meeting with Shaykh Jabir that he felt his "full appreciation of the difficult conditions through which the Palestinian revolution is going in facing a possible wide-ranging land, sea and air Israeli attack." He said Shaykh Jabir "affirmed Kuwait's firm stand in support of the Palestinian question and the Palestinian revolution."

Az-Za'nun said Kuwait "is continuing to play its usual role in supporting the Palestinian revolution and is also carrying out intense efforts to restore Arab solidarity so that the Arab stand is capable of confronting forthcoming aggression and Zionist plans which do not exclude anyone in our Arab region."

Az-Za'nun said the discussion during the meeting also dealt with "the circumstances of the Palestinian revolution and efforts being exerted to strengthen Arab solidarity and the need to mass potentials to confront the common enemy."

Az-Za'nun announced that in the next few days he will be heading for Baghdad to deliver a similar message to the president of Iraq, Saddam Husayn, from 'Arafat, and that afterward he will visit Doha and Manama to deliver similar messages to the amirs of Qatar and Bahrain.

OMAN

GOVERNMENT FIXES OIL PRICE AT $35 PER BARREL

GF031200 Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English 31 Dec 81 p 1

[Excerpt] According to MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES), Oman has fixed $35 per barrel as both its official government sales price and its contract-buy-back sales price for 1982. In this way, MEES says, Oman has reunified its government sales price (the price on which the margin for equity crude is based) and the contract-buy-back price after the two had diverged at various points during 1981 due to turbulent market conditions.

The $35 per barrel government sales price is retroactive to November 1, while the $35 per barrel contract-buy-back price is effective from January 1, as against the fourth-quarter 1981 price of $34 per barrel.

The $35 barrel price has been fixed for the whole of 1982, with the proviso that it will escalate with any changes in the Arabian light market crude.

GCC MILITARY MISSION DEPARTS AFTER 2-DAY VISIT

EA312000 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Excerpts] The military mission of the Arab states' Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] left the country this afternoon after a 2-day visit to the sultanate during which members of the mission had the honor of meeting His Majesty Sultan Qabus.

Members of the military mission paid field visits to formations of the sultan's armed forces, a number of military institutes, schools and (?training) institutions and acquainted themselves with the level of development achieved by the sultan's armed forces during this brilliant era of His Majesty Sultan Qabus, supreme commander of the armed forces.

It is noteworthy that the mission comprised officers from the UAE, Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait.

His Excellency Brig Hasan Ihsan Nasib, undersecretary at the Defense Ministry and assistant chief of the Defense Staff, met members of the military mission yesterday evening at the Al-Ghubrah Guest Palace and with them thoroughly assessed the results of this visit.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS -- Sultan Qabus appointed Ahmad ibn Sultan ibn Sayf (al-Hawsani) as deputy head of the Office of Protocol. The sultan also appointed 'Abdallah Muhammad adh-Dhahab as ambassador to Bahrain. [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Dec 81 EA]

SAUDI ARABIA

SPOKESMAN EXPLAINS AL-FAYSAL REMARKS ON ISRAEL

LD041320 Riyadh SPA in English 1208 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Jan (SPA) -- An official spokesman said here last night that Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in a recent interview with the New York TIMES had primarily concentrated in the first place on the paramount necessity of Israel's recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their right to establish an independent state on their own soil.

The spokesman pointed out that the most important remarks of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in the interview focused on the Israeli recognition of the legitimate Palestinian rights, along with its total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories. "Prince Faysal had stressed that if Israel responded favourably to these two legitimate demands, peace can prevail in the Middle East," the official spokesman added.

"There is no truth at all on what was allegedly quoted to him on the kingdom's recognition of Israel. There should be accuracy in reporting news," the spokesman said.

REUTER reported Saturday night an interview of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal with the New York TIMES, which allegedly quoted him as having said: "The Kingdom is prepared to recognise Israel if it returned Arab occupied lands and recognised the Palestinian rights."

SYRIA REPORTEDLY ASKED TO SUSPEND DISPUTES

GF011600 Doha QNA in Arabic 1356 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Jan (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today quotes an Arab diplomatic source in Riyadh as saying that Saudi officials asked Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during his recent visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to freeze Damascus' disputes with Jordan and Iraq in order to achieve a strategic balance between the Arabs and Israel -- which Syria has been requesting -- if it is not possible to resolve these disputes now.

The paper says that during the Saudi-Syrian talks the two sides discussed the Iraqi-Iranian war. Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, explained to the Syrian president that this war does not serve the Arab issue. Damascus must utilize its good relations with Tehran to seek a solution to this war and hence achieve a strategic balance between the Arabs and the Israeli enemy.

UAE

LOWER OIL, HIGHER NATURAL GAS PRICES IMPLEMENTED

GF021248 Doha QNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Jan (QNA) -- The UAE began implementing new prices for its petroleum exports yesterday in accordance with resolutions adopted at the OPEC conference that was held in Abu Dhabi on 9 December.

Oil prices differentials have been reduced by 20 cents per barrel. Thus, new UAE oil prices will be as follows: $35.50 per barrel for (Nurban) oil, $35.40 per barrel for Zakum oil, $35.30 per barrel for Umm ash-Shayf oil and $32.72 per barrel for Zakum oil in Dubayy. Liquid natural gas, which previously sold for $6.44 per Btu, now sells for $6.47 per Btu.

All foreign petroleum companies and countries that import UAE oil were informed of the new prices last week by the UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Ministry.

1981 CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION FIGURES RELEASED

GF051317 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 5 Jan 82 p 3

[Text] The United Arab Emirates produces crude oil at the rate of 1,400,000 barrels a day during 1981, according to a report released by the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

Of the total, Abu Dhabi alone produced 1,060,000 barrels -- 15 per cent below the 1980 rate.

Abu Dhabi's export of crude oil during the first nine months of 1981 reached 304,092,000 barrels -- a daily average of 1,114,000 barrels.

The Abu Dhabi Company for Onshore Oil Operations (ADCO) exported the largest quantity from the Jabal Az-Zannah port (150 million barrels on 244 tankers -- a daily average of 548,970 barrels) followed by the Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company (Adma-opco) from Das Island (130,476,000 barrels on 206 tankers -- a daily average of 477,935 barrels).

The remaining quantities were imported by Abu Al-Bukush Company (15,829,000 barrels) Abu Dhabi Oil Company Limited (5,135,000 barrels) and Amerada Hess Oil Company (2,782,000 barrels).

Of the 29 countries which imported Abu Dhabi oil, Japan topped the list with 115 million barrels followed by France, 34 million; the USA, 25 million; West Germany, 23 million and Holland, 11 million. South Korea was at the bottom of the list with 985,000 barrels.

BRIEFS

NEW ABU DHABI AIRPORT -- (WAM) -- The New Abu Dhabi international airport opens at 4 pm today when it receives Gulf Air flight 346 form Bahrain. The present Abu Dhabi airport will stop functioning at midday today. It will not be used as an alternative airport. The 100-square-kilometre airport and the roads leading to it cost UD 1.5 billion. [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 2 Jan 82 p 1 GF]

WAM-YONHAP AGREEMENT -- An agreement was signed today in Abu Dhabi between the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY (WAM) and the ROK news agency YONHAP. The two agencies will exchange newscasts and transmit each other's news on their internal networks to achieve further understanding between the two countries. WAM has similar agreements with Pakistani, Japanese and Italian news agencies. It also exchanges news with an Indian news agency in addition to Arab news agencies. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1802 GMT 28 Dec 81 GF]

AID TO AFGHAN REFUGEES -- (WAM) -- On the directives of His Highness Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid, deputy prime minister of the UAE and crown prince of Dubai, a private plane loaded with relief supplies for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan left Dubai Airport yesterday. Mr Kamal Hamzah, director of the Dubayy municipality, said that the shipment contained 20 tons of foodstuff, milk for children and blankets. He added this was the fourth shipment of relief goods sent by Dubai to the Afghan mujahidin. Another planeload will leave Dubai next week. [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 4 Jan 82 p 1 GF]

YAR

MEDIA SUPPORTS EXPULSION OF IRANIAN CHARGE

GF021955 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1806 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] San'a', 2 Jan (WAKH) -- The press and media in the YAR have strongly attacked the Iranian regime and emphasized that the expulsion of the Iranian charge from San'a' was nothing but a fair measure to protect the Yemeni people from Iranian elements promoting sabotage and conspiracy.

The newspaper 13 MAY says in its editorial today that the deportation of the Iranian diplomat from San'a' was a sensible action and one of the rights of national and patriotic sovereignty. The paper stresses that the Iranian charge's bad behavior and exploitation of his diplomatic immunity are signs of the bankruptcy of Iran's rulers and their mental retardation.

Iranian Charge d'Affaires al-Hasan Aminiyan [name as received] left San'a' for his country on Thursday following the YAR Government decision to expel him within 48 hours. He was declared persona non grata for distributing leaflets criticizing the YAR for supporting Iraq in its war against the aggressor Iranians.

BRIEFS

ARAB MONETARY FUND LOAN -- The YAR has obtained its first loan from the Arab Monetary Fund. The load is for 3.67 million Arab dinars, which is more than $14 million. [Doha QNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Dec 81 GF]

NEW CABINET SWORN IN BY PRESIDENT MUBARAK 4 JAN

NC041338 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Excerpts] The members of the new Cabinet took the legal oath [of office] before President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today. Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din was the first to take the oath. He was followed by the deputy prime ministers and the ministers. After the Cabinet members took the oath, the Cabinet held its first meeting under the chairmanship of President Mubarak.

Statement Follows Meeting

NC041802 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jan (MENA) -- This afternoon the new Cabinet held its first meeting under the chairmanship of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at Al-'Urubah Palace.

Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif stated after the 1-hour meeting that President Mubarak welcomed the members of the new Cabinet and wished the ministers success in carrying out their duties in this critical period. The president stated that the Cabinet's program of action was defined in his statements to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council.

Ash-Sharif added that the president focused on a number of points. He said that we are all indebted to the homeland for everything and every one of us must consider himself a loyal soldier of his country, that Egypt is for all its citizens and that there is an opportunity for every Egyptian to serve and to give. The minister of state for information also said that President Mubarak affirmed that public work must be based on several principles. These are: Objectivity, unselfishness, not becoming involved in vituperation and insignificant matters, honesty, purity of hand and heart, not being protective and partial and the importance of discipline in work and social behavior.

Ash-Sharif said that his excellency explained that freedom does not mean anarchy or chaos. He added that President Mubarak affirmed that the Cabinet's work must be based on scientific principles. The first step must always be to define the national goals and then to define the priorities and draw up the plans to achieve these goals.

Ash-Sharif said that the president also spoke about public work and the ministerial responsibility, saying that it must be based on facts and strive for achievements. No promises should be made. The ministers must be candid with the people so that the people will understand the facts. We must not make announcements about projects unless the work has actually been accomplished, and there is no need at all for propaganda. Work should be carried out earnestly, and the people should have confidence in what is done. Then, every citizen can put himself in the right place and shoulder his responsibility and carry out his role.

The president also spoke about local government. He pointed to the need to avoid centralization. It is in the national interest, he said, to strengthen local government and the authority of the governorates. On the other hand, the people must get used to sharing and not put all the burden on government. Every citizen is called upon to play his role. The final result is the outcome of the work of all individuals. In order for the masses to carry out their role, the government must tell them the facts. The government must also respect the people's intelligence. It must not make too many attractive promises. His excellency said that the government must maintain the people's confidence by adhering to principles. Ash-Sharif noted that the president said that as a result of this frankness, we shall find that our people will face the challenge of building their present and future and that they will really exert the necessary effort and will not depend on the government to do everything.

The state minister for information said the president also spoke about the importance of seriousness, honesty, purity, not being suspicious, impartiality and the need not to make too many statements. The president spoke about the importance of cooperation among the state's institutions -- the executive and the legislative -- and warned against wrangling and conflict among the institutions. His excellency also focused on the need to look to the future and not to talk about the past and its mistakes and negative points. We must look to the ahead to build the future Egypt for its sons -- for all its sons.

Safwat ash-Sharif added that the president stressed that he will not allow insults or defamation and that we must be careful. As a society we must be the guardians of ourselves as one family. Every one of us must be careful and honest in his remarks about others. His excellency also spoke about many moral principles and stressed the need to abide by them.

Regarding the opposition, President Mubarak said that the constructive opposition should play an objective role in the process of decisionmaking and supervising its implementation. The opposition is not an antithesis to the government, but a supplementary part of it that is the other side of the same coin. Ash-Sharif added that the president asked that in the coming period attention be focused on political, economic and social stability and on protecting society against any shocks or disturbances, as well as on correcting the social course. The president announced that there is an elite group of Egyptian economists who have offered several alternatives. He added that there will be a broad dialogue about these alternatives in which the majority party and the opposition parties as well as any experts or men of thought can take part.

Ash-Sharif said that the president asked that the ministers give special attention to the economic issues, but did not mean that these are the only issues which deserve consideration. There are several other issues of importance, such as increasing production and productivity, rationalizing consumption and imports, making greater resources available for investment in development as well as providing food security for the people and solving the housing problem in concrete and realistic manner. At the same time it is necessary to strengthen and modernize the public sector and to ensure its administrative competence. He added that the president also focused on the importance of the public sector and its modernization and development, pointing out that it is an important pillar of our economy. In addition, he focused on the need to meet the shortage in professional manpower through organised training.

Safwat ash-Sharif said the president also focused on another important matter -- that there should be no privileges and no protectionism for anyone. All citizens are equal and there shall be no intervention to protect any privileges or any special cases. All citizens have rights and responsibilities. We must respect, support and develop this principle so that it will become a part of our life. He added that the president stressed the importance of performance and achievement which, he said, were the right gauge for measuring an individual's capabilities and talents. As for party affiliations and good or bad intentions, these can never be used as a pretext for deviation because performance and achievement are basic factors.

Continuing, Safwat ash-Sharif said that after the president finished delivering his speech, Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din thanked President Mubarak for his confidence in the Cabinet and the ministers. The prime minister then spoke about the coming stage, saying that this is a government of the National Democratic Party and that it is a government of all Egyptians. This government agrees to listen to views it agrees with as well as views with which it does not. Nay, it welcomes in the full sense of the word opinions with which it does not agree so that it can take something from them -- because in the long run the matter concerns Egypt.

Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din mentioned several principles that will embody the Cabinet's style. These will be based on discipline, serious work, sacrifice and devotion to duty in all venues of public and national work.

He also talked about the security issue and the achievement of safety for the citizens so that each citizen in the land of Egypt can ensure his livelihood, honor and life.

He added that the prime minister also talked about the economic situation and thanked the former economic group for playing its part. He expressed his wish that the new group will cooperate with those who possess the know-how and who were named by the president so that they can hold an extensive dialogue to plan Egypt's economic future.

Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din also affirmed that the government will continue the autonomy talks in accordance with Egypt's firm and principled stance on the peace and autonomy issues. The minister of state for information added that later the president talked in general terms about Egypt's foreign policy and its principled and firm stand with regard to the peace issue and autonomy.

After finishing his statement, Safwat ash-Sharif replied to newsmen's questions. To a question on the date of the Cabinet's next meeting, Safwat ash-Sharif said that the prime minister will set the date tomorrow. He added: I believe it will be held in the next few days.

On whether the new Cabinet will submit a working program to the People's Assembly, Safwat ash-Sharif said that the Cabinet will certainly submit a statement to the People's Assembly.

On the date of the convocation of the economic conference, Ash-Sharif said that the conference will be held in mid-January, as was previously announced.

He said that the president and the prime minister also mentioned that the economic issue cannot be deliverated in 1 or 2 days, but will be discussed extensively. He added that the party's committees will deliberate this issue and so will the opposition and the experts.

On the role of the private sector during the coming phase, Ash-Sharif said that this subject was not on today's agenda. He added that the private sector has its role and status side by side with the public sector so as to achieve a balance. He added that this, in itself, is nothing new, that there is no change in this approach and that the door is open to the private sector to carry out more activities in accordance with the existing rules.

On whether there will be any appointments or nominations for positions that have become vacant as a result of the formation of the new cabinet, Ash-Sahrif said that it is natural this will happen at the earliest opportunity.

On the new role of the Information Ministry, Safwat ash-Sharif said the ministry's role is clear with regard to domestic and foreign information, its continuity and its support so that it can carry out its role in the best possible manner. The same can be said for radio and television, for which there are feasible plans on developing their services to society and on facilitating the task of journalism and its relationship with the executive powers so as to give the media access to information, statements and documents which would help journalists carry out their task as the Fourth Estate.

To a question on the role of the journalists who were transferred from their posts and were not reinstated, the minister of state for information said that this issue will be left for the president and that the president is currently looking into this subject. He added: We are on our way, because every phase is distinguished by its circumstances and performances. I believe a majority of them have indeed been returned to work. As for those who have not been returned to their posts, they will be returned as soon as their position becomes clear -- as has been explained in state policy. We will not take a stand against anyone, as the president indicated, because Egypt belongs to all its sons -- as long as the course of work is clear.

With regard to the journalists who are still being detained, the minister of state for information said that this matter will be left to the courts. He added: As we have seen so far, anyone who is cleared will be released immediately.

More Muhyi ad-Din Comments

NC041557 Cairo MENA in English 1505 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jan (MENA) -- Premier Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said he was not against the open-door policy as an idea, but that liberalisation should not be centred on luxuries which are not needed by citizens.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din said following the Cabinet session today in reply to a query on the reason behind the change of the economic group and whether this meant a change in Egypt's open-door policy, that Egypt welcomed foreign capital from any side, but that priority will be given to production needs. Muhyi ad-Din asserted that the coming stage required production liberalisation. Asked if specific measures will be adopted against persons whose names came up during the case of Rashad 'Uthman, the premier said this had not been decided yet.

'ALI ON TALKS WITH ISRAEL, GOLAN ANNEXATION

PM050915 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 24 Dec 81 p 13

[Kenize Mourad 20 December interview in Cairo with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali: "Egyptian-Israeli Dialogue Will Not Be Damaged by Golan"]

[Text] Cairo, 23 Dec -- [Question] Do you regard the abandonment of the U.S.-Israeli agreement as a passing change of attitude, or does it jeopardize the Camp David agreements and therefore the Israelis' withdrawal from Sinai on 25 April?

[Answer] I believe that this time the break is a serious one. But even if it raises the question of the continuation of the Camp David agreements, it in no way jeopardizes the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Defense Minister Ariel Sharon has just confirmed this to us: The third and last part of Sinai will be returned to us on 25 April. Indeed, the evacuation is already under way, and the Israeli Air Force bases have already been dismantled.

[Question] But if, following Israel's annexation of the Golan, Egypt failed to break off negotiations with Tel Aviv on the autonomy of the occupied territories, was it not for fear of jeopardizing the imminent recovery of Sinai? Following the annexation of Jerusalem in July 1980, did President as-Sadat not break off the dialogue?

[Answer] The annexation of Jerusalem has nothing to do with the annexation of the Golan, since it is on the West Bank and since at that very time we opened negotiations with Israel on the self-determination of the West Bank and Gaza. The Golan, on the other hand, is an occupied Syrian territory. We severely condemned its annexation. Have Syria and the other Arab countries done any more?

[Question] Israel is at present rallying its troops on the Syrian border. If there is a conflict, what will Egypt do?

[Answer] We will certainly not allow ourselves to be drawn into a war. In any case, the Arab defense treaty no longer concerns us, since the Arab countries decided to form another Arab League from which we were excluded.

[Question] So, come what may, will Egypt continue its negotiations with Israel on the the autonomy of the occupied territories?

[Answer] It will. This dialogue is a matter entirely independent of the problem of the Israeli-Syrian conflict. Syria refuses to discuss the Golan -- or any other topic -- with Israel for 100 years or more, until the balance of forces enables it to recover the lost territories. We have opted for peace and negotiations. This is our present stance, and so it will remain in the future too.

[Question] But, while progress is being made in the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, these negotiations are at a standstill, since you are talking about totally different things. For Israel "autonomy" means the introduction of the necessary measures for the self-determination of a Palestinian state.

[Answer] This is true, but we have no alternative: Only discussions can resolve these divergences, so that we can subsequently find shared ground for agreement. It is a difficult task, which will take months, years. But we have no choice.

[Question] Do you believe that the European initiative mentioned by Cheysson on his recent visit to Israel could have improved the situation?

[Answer] This "European initiative" was merely the adoption of a stance by the ten. We urge the Europeans to make every possible effort in the future, vis-a-vis Israel, to contribute to an overall peace settlement. They -- especially France -- maintain good relations with Jerusalem and should express to Israel their backing for the Fahd plan, not as an alternative to Camp David but as a dynamic thrust, a building method, proceeding from Camp David.

[Question] Do you really believe that Israel could some day accept the Fahd plan?

[Answer] I am talking not about the entire plan, but about the positive elements that it contains, especially section 7, which acknowledges the right of every state in the region to live in peace. Later, talks can be conducted with Israel on the recognition of a Palestinian state, but you cannot reach an agreement with an enemy without agreeing to talk with him. On As-Sadat's initiative we went as far as to recognize Israel. After that, everything went well.

[Question] Not so well with regard to resolving the Palestinian problem, which is at the root of the Israeli-Arab conflict. To make progress in the negotiations Egypt needs the participation of the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza. Do you believe that the repression that they are at present suffering encourages them?

[Answer] Indeed, everything that the Israelis are doing in the occupied territories conflicts with the possibility of any Palestinian participation in these autonomy negotiations. I hope that they will eventually realize this.

[Question] How long can Egypt continue to negotiate, despite everything?

[Answer] For the time being Egypt is the only nation that is acting, and we are trying our best. There is also another partner -- the United States -- and there are many other countries friendly with Israel for the past 30 years that could intervene and help.

ARAB STATES ASKED TO CUT TIES WITH IRAN

LD031244 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1213 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jan (KUNA) -- Iraq today called on all the Arab states to sever their diplomatic relations with Iran and to remove Iranian diplomatic missions from their territories.

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated that the purpose of this call is to "put an end to the evil acts committed by the Iranian missions which threaten the security, independence and safety of Arab nationals."

The spokesman was commenting on the ouster [ib'ad] by Bahrain and the YAR of the Iranian diplomatic missions in their countries after accusing them of participating in matters affecting internal security.

The spokesman added that the "Iranian diplomatic missions in Arab countries have become dens of sabotage and threaten the lives of others. Events prove that all of Iran's attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Arab countries emanate from Iranian diplomatic missions."

The Iraqi spokesman said the "charge d'affaires of the Persian regime in Bahrain left Manama last week after the fraternal Bahraini Government became certain that he had links with a group plotting against Bahrain and other countries of the region."

"The acts of interference in the YAR's internal affairs and those directed against the security and stability of Yemen committed by the embassy of the Persian regime affirm once more the aggressive nature of the Iranian policy and Iran's provocative plots," the spokesman said.

The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY reports that the spokesman "warned against Iranian activities in Yemen," which he said, "were a link in a long chain of Iranian policies hostile to Arab countries and designed for interference in the international affairs of these countries."

The spokesman said the Iraqi Government believes "that it is wise for the Arab countries to expel Iranian diplomatic missions from their territories and to sever diplomatic relations with the present Persian regime in Iran."

INA ON SYRIAN-IRANIAN MILITARY COOPERATION

JN030942 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jan (INA) -- Today's papers publish a document which confirms the presence of Syrian military hardware in the Iranian Army. The document, which the Iraqi forces found in an Iranian vehicle seized during the recent Gilan-e Gharb battles, shows a metal plate found on the remnants of a case containing military hardware. On it was written the name of the manufacturer -- "The Syrian Arab Republic-Defense Plants Establishment-Plant No 837".

Commenting on the document, ATH-THAWRAH says the Damascus rulers, not content with placing Arab airports in Syria at the disposal of the Khomeyni clique and offering assistance to Persian enemy planes in their attack against one of our airbases, have placed the products of their military plants at the disposal of the Tehran rulers.

The paper says the document reveals further proof of cooperation between the Syrian and Iranian regimes in the war of aggression imposed on Iraq. The paper adds that the traitorious Damascus rulers are trying to compensate for the huge losses in hardware that the Iranian forces have sustained.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 574

JN041701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jan (INA) -- Iraqi forces today killed 245 Iranians; shot down 2 fighter planes; destroyed 2 vehicles, 6 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post; and captured large quantities of weaponry and a number of enemy personnel.

This was stated in Communique No 574 issued tonight by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on the Iraqi forces' activities against the Iranian enemy during the past 24 hours. The communique said that the Iraqi forces offered 30 martyrs. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 574 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our just war enters its 17th month today and our great people and valiant forces are even more determined and more capable of continuing the fighting against the forces of the criminal Khomeyni clique until it gives up its aggressive course against and designs in Iraq and the Arab nation. Following are the results of the activities in the operations theater last night and today.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our units clashed with an enemy force in the Sumar area in which all types of weapons were used. The enemy sustained well over 200 dead and 1 vehicle destroyed.
B. One of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in Mimak opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd, killing 14 and destroying 2 stockpiles of hardware.
C. One of our forward units raided an enemy force in the Mehran area and clashed with it with all types of weapons. Our unit killed 11 enemy personnel, destroyed 1 stockpile of hardware, injured a large number of enemy personnel, seized large quantities of arms and various materiel and captured some enemy personnel.
D. One of our combat patrols raided an enemy concentration in the Ahvaz area, killing six and destroying one stockpile of hardware.
E. Six were killed and one observation post and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.
F. Four were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
G. Two were killed and one tank, one vehicle carrying hardware and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
H. Two were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
I. Two enemy fighter planes were shot down in the southern sector of the operations theater today and were seen exploding in the air.
J. Our planes today attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the operations theater, scoring direct and painful hits. All our planes returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to well over 245 killed; 2 fighter planes downed; 1 tank, 2 vehicles, 6 stockpiles of hardware, 1 observation post destroyed; a large quantity of personnel wounded; large quantities of weapons and war materiel captured; and some enemy personnel captured.

II. Our losses:

A. 30 martyrs in all sectors.

COMMANDOS RAID IRANIAN POSITIONS, KILLING 15

JN051127 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Jan 82

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jan (INA) -- Last night an Iraqi commando force launched a successful raid against the Iranian enemy's positions and concentrations in the Dezful area in the southern sector of the battlefield.

A military official at the battlefront told the INA war correspondent today that the Iraqi force clashed with the enemy forces with all types of weapons and defeated them. He added that the enemy losses numbered more than 15 dead and large numbers wounded. The commando force returned with large quantities of enemy weapons and a number of captives.

It is to be recalled that the Iraqi commando forces launched similar raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the Mehran, Shush and Dezful areas during the past few days, inflicting large losses of life and equipment, in addition to seizing large quantities of weapons of all types and capturing a number of enemy soldiers.

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT KITTANI ARRIVES

JN042136 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jan (INA) -- UN General Assembly President 'Ismat Kittani arrived here from New York tonight. Kittani told INA that the current General Assembly session, whose work was suspended last month, will resume in February discussing a number of issues, foremost among which are UNRWA's deficit and disarmament. He added that the assembly will elect a new judge for the International Court of Justice on 2 March in place of the former judge who recently passed away.

'Ismat Kittani was formerly an Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary.

SADDAM ORDERS AD-DA'WAH PARTY MEMBERS RELEASED

JN041000 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jan (INA) -- It has been announced here that 30 members of the agent Ad-Da'wah Party have been released on President Saddam Husayn's instructions.

Today's Iraqi papers said that the competent authorities in the At-Ta'min governorate released them the day before yesterday. They were convicted of crimes punishable by execution according to law.

In interviews with the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH, those released expressed their desire to volunteer and have the honor of taking part in the just battle against the racist Persian enemy. They condemned the Khomeyni regime's criminal, sectarian and racist acts against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation.

AD-DUSTUR NOTES CONTRADICTORY U.S. STATEMENTS

JN010741 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 1 Jan 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel and the U.S. People," today's AD-DUSTUR writes: Yesterday's statement by U.S. President Reagan in which he described any Israeli attempt to annex the West Bank as a big mistake that would blow up the Camp David accords can be understood as an early warning to Tel Aviv that it will lose all the gains granted to it by those accords, headed by the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Although this clear utterance comes in time to warn Israel against any other action against the West Bank, we think it is not enough to prevent Israel from undertaking such a serious step, nor can it deter Israel's desire for expansion and aggression. We add nothing new when we frankly say that such U.S. statements are undependable in deterring the Zionist enemy. Our long experience with the United States abounds with contradictory statements on the Arab-Israeli conflict. There have been several positive statements which were quickly rescinded by Washington after Zionist anger, objection or protest. We wonder why Reagan ignored the Gaza Strip in his statement. Has the strip been dropped from the statement accidentally or deliberately? We also have the right to ask if Washington sincerely believes that its displeasure with Israel and objection to its measures are enough to curb Israel's arrogance.

AD-DUSTUR went on to say: Events have proven that Israel always depends on the fact that U.S. reaction to any action or crime it commits in the region does not exceed a wrath that soon fades as time drags on. This is exactly what happened when Jerusalem was annexed, the Iraqi nuclear reactor was attacked, residential areas in Beirut were raided and the Golan was annexed. U.S. wrath and denunciation do not last long, as is evident in current U.S. attempts to prevent the UN Security Council from imposing sanctions against Israel for refusing to cancel the Golan Law. Hence, we consider Washington's polite warnings useless in curbing Israeli aggression.

If the United States is sincere and honest in acting as a neutral partner in establishing peace in the Middle East, it should act out of its responsibility as a superpower by exerting real pressure on Israel and imposing sanctions on it to force it to comply with international will and with the requirements of a just peace in the region.

Concluding, AD-DUSTUR said: The U.S. commitment to the existence of Israel does not give Washington the right to encourage the policy of aggression, expansion and terrorism which is being practiced by the Zionist entity in the region by transient fits of anger and statements of denunciation which do not influence the flow of U.S. funds and weapons to Israel.

U.S. ATTEMPTS TO REACTIVATE AUTONOMY TALKS

JN021037 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Jan 82 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Autonomy Conspiracy Under Implementation"]

[Text] All evidence indicates that the U.S. administration is paying special attention to reactivating the autonomy negotiations for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and that the coming 4 months will witness increasing U.S. moves to achieve success in the negotiations by all possible ways and means.

In addition to repeated reports that Washington is applying strong pressure on Israel to make it show enough flexibility to achieve success in the negotiations and that this pressure was one of the reasons for Begin's fury directed against President Reagan after the Golan annexation, the U.S. administration has also appointed a special team to consolidate the negotiations. This is the first step of its kind to be taken by President Reagan who, in the past, was satisfied with the participation of U.S. ambassadors only.

Washington has also recalled its ambassadors in Cairo and Tel Aviv to consult with them on the autonomy negotiations, which have not succeeded up to now in eliminating differences between Cairo and Israel on the concept of autonomy. Cairo wants full autonomy for the land and population, while Begin insists on giving it to the population only, excluding the land which he considers Israeli land.

Diplomatic sources point out that Begin promised U.S. figures who visited Tel Aviv recently that (full) autonomy would be achieved by next April, which is the date for the final stage of Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

There is no doubt that this U.S. interest in carrying out the autonomy conspiracy, which is rejected by the Palestinians and the Arabs even according to the Egyptian and U.S. concepts, constitutes a danger to the Palestinians, the Arabs, the Palestinian issue and Egypt as well. In view of U.S.-Israel relations, and the U.S. giving in to Israeli pressure, the autonomy negotiations are bound to end up approving the Israeli formula for autonomy. This would mean prolonging the West Bank and Gaza Strip occupation for 5 more years and giving Israel a free hand to build more settlements and to increase Israeli population there to the highest possible level. This would make the elimination of occupation after the transitional period difficult, if not impossible.

U.S. keen desire to achieve success in the autonomy negotiations will involve Egypt in this serious conspiracy, increasing its isolation in the Arab world and making its return to the Arab fold impossible.

So far, Egypt has refused to be involved in this U.S.-Israel game. We hope, and are confident, that Husni Mubarak's Egypt will maintain its stand, because the Palestinians, who alone must determine their own future, reject the autonomy conspiracy and bravely confront it. Neither the Arab countries nor the United States have the right to speak in the name of the Palestinians and sign on their behalf any agreement or document concerning their fate, future and land.

Autonomy is rejected on the Palestinian and Arab levels because it means peace the Israeli way, which contradicts the concept of lasting and comprehensive peace and conflicts with UN Security Council Resolution 242 and all international resolutions calling for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories.

Any U.S. attempt to carry out autonomy constitutes a danger to the future of the Palestinian people and its rights and homeland. It is also a danger to Arab-U.S. relations and conflicts with the responsibility of the United States as a major power, whose duty is to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace and apply pressure on Israel to make it withdraw from territories it occupied with the power of U.S. arms, not to assist Israel in carrying out the autonomy conspiracy and in entrenching Israeli occcupation of Arab territories.

VOL REPORTS SECURITY INCIDENTS IN BEIRUT 4 JAN

NC041946 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Excerpts] There were clashes this morning between the Amal movement and the communist action organization in the Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq area. Rockets and machineguns were used in the clashes, in which one communist belonging to the Al-Murtada family was killed. Ten persons were wounded on both sides. The supreme committee for security was subsequently able to attain a disengagement between the warring parties -- at which point four Arab Deterrent Force vehicles entered the area and stopped the shooting at 1300. Later, members of the joint security committee took up positions in Al-Bastah. A state of tension continues in the area of the clashes.

Meanwhile, a suspicious looking bag was discovered on the steps of the second floor of a building in the Carlton area. A military expert, CWO Yusuf Bitar, was immediately called to defuse the bomb, composed of 10 kgm of TNT, 10 kgm of dynamite and 4 hand-grenades. All were connected to a timer that was set to go off at 1000. The device was defused at 0955, saving the area from a terrifying catastrophe.

On the other hand, hostilities have continued against Iraqi establishments in Lebanon. In the wake of the blowing up of the Iraqi Embassy and the oil pipelines and the assassination of a number of Iraqi Ba'th officials in Lebanon, two Syrians opened gunfire during the night on the Iraqi cultural center on Al-Maqdisi street. The guards at the center were able to arrest the two Syrians after wounding them. They were later transferred for treatment. The Iraqi deputy director of protocol at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, who is currently in Beirut, has contacted the Lebanese Foreign Ministry and asked for increased protection for Iraqi establishments and the stationing of more guards.

OIL PIPELINE BLOWN UP; UNIFIL SOLDIER KILLED

NC031322 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] The remarkable calm characterizing the security situation in recent days is still generally prevailing in the country.

However, in the north, security reports have indicated that the pipeline carrying Iraqi oil to the Tripoli refinery was blown up this afternoon in Mahallat al-Hisah in the western Tall 'Abbas region on Al-'Abbudiyah road. As a result, a huge fire broke out and teams of fire brigades immediately proceeded to the scene to put the fire out.

In the south, reports from the central sector have indicated that a post in Bir as-Salasil manned by members of the UNIFIL Ghanaian contingent was attacked this morning by armed men. One soldier was killed and another was wounded.

Pipeline Fire Put Out

NC031744 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Industry and Oil Minister Muhammad Yusuf Baydun has affirmed that the oil reserves in Tripoli are sufficent for the country's needs and that there is no fear of a fuel crisis. This was contained in a statement the oil minister made following the explosion this afternoon in Mahallat al-Hisah, in the north, in the Iraqi oil pipeline to the Tripoli refinery. A short while ago, Industry and Oil Minister Muhammad Yusuf Baydun affirmed to us by telephone that the fire brigades have put out the fire in the northern oil pipelines and that efforts are now being concentrated on estimating the damage.

BA'TH PARTY STATEMENT ON PAN-ARAB COUNCIL

JN021758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Jan 82

["Text" of the statement issued on 2 January 1982 by the Syrian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's National Command on the work of the first session of the party's Pan-Arab Council]

[Text] Masses of our great people, Ba'thist comrades, Arab nationalist and progressive people, free and progressive people in the whole world: In December 1981, the party's Pan-Arab Council [al-Majlis al-Qawmi] held its first session and made a general and comprehensive review of all prominent political developments and events in the Arab and international arenas. It also reviewed the progress of the party and revolution in Syria and party and organizational work and the development of the party's pan-Arab organizations and the most important results in this respect. The council discussed the most prominent political issues and developments in light of the party's principled stand and political line as confirmed by the resolution and directives of the 13th Pan-Arab Congress, including the overall work of the party, the consolidation of its structure on the pan-Arab level and the prominent role being played by the Syrian revolution in bolstering Arab steadfastness and confronting the plots and dangers to which the Arab nation and its liberation movement are being exposed in face of the treasonous Camp David trend and the ambitions of the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism to subjugate the Arab homeland and force it to capitulate.

The council has also stressed the basic tasks for which we should struggle in the coming stage -- tasks which constitute a continuation of the political line and principled stands drawn up by the 13th Pan-Arab Congress with regard to the various issues facing the Arab struggle, particularly that of liberating the occupied Arab territories and restoring the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights and what this entails in the duty to confront the Camp David plot and all the links and the liquidationist and capitulatory schemes and plans resulting from or complementing it.

The convocation of this Pan-Arab Council session came to consecrate the presence of this body as a leading institution contributing to the party's organizational, political, ideological and practical life along the path of consolidating the edifice of its pan-Arab organizations and continuously enriching and developing its experience. The importance of this session stems particularly from the critical and serious circumstances under which it was held and from the nature of the challenges and tasks brought about by these circumstances, which require above all else stepping up preparations and alertness to the maximum and mobilizing all resources for the fateful battle being waged by our nation -- the battle to defend the Arab existence and destiny in the face of the fiercest imperialist offensive to which the Arab nation has been exposed in its modern history.

This session was held after a period replete with events, developments and action in the party's revolution in Syria, which forms the main basis for Arab steadfastness and confrontation on the pan-Arab level, where the party's pan-Arab organizations are endeavoring to strengthen the party's structure and to augment its efficacy in order to support the Arab nation's steadfastness and revive its liberation movement and on the international level, with the aim of promoting friendship and solidarity with the world's freedom and revolutionary movements so as to face the imperialist-Zionist alliance and the agent reactionary forces.

Masses of our Arab people: The council has noticed that recently there has been an escalation in the offensive by the imperialist-Zionist and agent reactionary forces against the Arab forces of freedom and steadfastness, particularly against the party and revolution in Syria. This escalation was manifested by the increasing flagrant external plots which have been and still are aimed against the party's revolution in Syria because of its valiant steadfastness and confrontation of the Camp David policy and aggressive designs and in view of Syria's role in foiling these designs in which the Camp David plot is the main link. This escalation was also manifested in the continuing tension in Lebanon and Israel's escalation of its aggression by colluding with the reactionary, isolationist and agent forces against the Lebanese situation as a tool to pressure and threaten Syria. The escalation of the offensive was manifested further by Israel's escalation of its terror and aggressive settlements' acts in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and by its aggressive act of annexing the Syrian Arab Golan territory.

The escalation of the offensive was clearly demonstrated in the aggression and threats against the Libyan Arab masses by U.S. imperialism and those colluding with it, and in the plots and pressure against the other centers of Arab steadfastness with the aim of confusing and weakening them. It was also clearly demonstrated in the attempts to strike at Arab solidarity and joint Arab action in order to break the siege around the Camp David partners and extricate them from their troubles following the mass and official resistence which confronted them, especially the Egyptian regime, and to force others to fall into the Camp David snares.

The council considered for a long time the new and serious qualitative development in Israeli-U.S. relations as a result of the strategic cooperation agreement and the intensification of the U.S. policy of aggression which is based on confrontation, on increasing international tension; on returning to cold war; on escalating the arms race; on strengthening its aggressive military presence in various regions, particularly our region; on attempting to terrorize people and their freedom movement by using all forms of intervention, including open military intervention; on forming the so-called rapid deployment force; and on staging military maneuvers in a number of Arab countries ruled by agent regimes which collude with the Camp David partners.

The council discussed developments which have taken place in Egypt, particularly since As-Sadat's death, and their impact on the Arab level; the duty of the Arab steadfastness and liberation forces to continue and further escalate the struggle against the Egyptian regime, which is allied with the United States and Israel; the foiling of this regime's attempts to end its isolation and the protection of Arab solidarity and the unified Arab stand in the face of the capitulatory imperialist and Zionist schemes.

The council reviewed various aspects of the Arab situation as well as its positive and negative features. The council reviewed the important role of the Arab steadfastness and liberation forces in confronting the Camp David plot and the impact of this positive role on the level of Arab solidarity. The council stressed the importance of further promoting and developing this role and bolstering Arab solidarity out of a desire to further escalate the struggle against the Camp David schemes. The concern is to build an Arab power that is capable of confronting these schemes. The Syrian Arab power constitutes the nucleus and main pillar of this Arab power. Efforts should focus on strengthening and backing this nucleus in order to achieve the requested strategic balance of powers, particularly between Syria and the Zionist enemy. This balance is viewed as the pillar of the legitimate Arab struggle to restore usurped Arab lands and rights. Without this balance, it would be impossible to discuss opportunities, initiatives or projects to bring about a just and comprehensive settlement of the struggle in the region and to achieve a just, durable and comprehensive peace.

The council gave serious importance to the joint Arab action and learned the reasons for postponing the Arab summit conference in Fes. The council underlined its concern about Arab solidarity and the further strengthening of it, on the basis of the struggle against the Camp David policy, aggressive schemes and capitulatory plans.

The council discussed the hostile Zionist enemy's decision to annex the Golan territory to the racist Zionist entity, affirmed its firm and absolute rejection of this decision and considered it an affirmation of the enemy's belligerency and blatant proof of its expansionist, colonial settlement nature. The council asserted that this hostile measure constitutes a flagrant challenge to the Arabs, to world public opinion and the international community, and to all international principles, laws and conventions prohibiting the annexation of others' lands by the use of force. This decision impudently conflicts with the United Nations and Security Council resolutions, including the resolution on the cease-fire between Syria and Israel.

The council appraised highly the leading and prominent role of the party's revolution in Syria, under the leadership of militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, the party's secretary general and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, in its valiant confrontation of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught, the Camp David treacherous schemes as well as all internal and external plots and pressures and threats; in its severe stand on the agent Muslim Brotherhood gangs; in its firm stand against the aggressive Zionist decision annexing the Golan; in its determination to continue the struggle regardless of the sacrifices and burdens.

The council greeted with appreciation and admiration the Syrian Arab citizens' firm stand in the Golan against the decision to annex it and against all the racist and fascist Zionist measures and practices. It also greeted their valiant struggle to confirm their Syrian Arab identity and to liberate the Golan.

The council also stressed the important role played by the pan-Arab front of steadfastness and confrontation and expressed the need to develop this front and complete and increase the effectiveness of its institutions. It also greeted the Arab People's Congress and its permanent secretariat. It highly evaluated Syria's role within these two bodies as well as its work and desire to consolidate and develop them. It also stressed Syria's firm stand toward a unitary struggle and work to achieve any unitary step between the countries qualified for such unity.

The council also highly evaluated the role played by the Syrian party's revolution and by the comrade secretary general of the party within the framework of joint Arab action for the sake of preserving Arab solidarity, mobilizing Arab resources and directing the battle toward its primary target of defeating and toppling the Camp David plot, liberating the occupied Arab territories and restoring the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights, beginning with by their right to self-determination, repatriation and establishment of their independent state on their soil under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The council asserted its condemnation of all the treasonous policies and practices which led and are still leading to the dissipation of efforts, fragmentation of powers, squandering of energies and turning them away from the main aim of liberating lands and restoring rights, as is the case with the Iraqi regime's practices and its war against Iran.

The council also greeted and highly appreciated the Syrian role in Lebanon and stressed the stand of the Syrian party and revolution toward the Lebanese crisis as represented in the desire to achieve a national Lebanese accord on the basis of preserving Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, Arabism and unity of both land and people and ending all forms of dealing with the Zionist enemy. The council stressed its support for the struggle of the Arab people and all elements struggling for an independent, democratic and united Lebanon.

The council also stressed the strategic alliance between the party and its revolution in Syria and the Palestinian revolution. It emphasized the need to back the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. It affirmed Syria's eagerness to consolidate the unity of the Palestinian revolution factions, firmly entrench their unified stand and boost their joint work on the basis of struggle against the Camp David accords and all links and stages of conspiratorial and liquidationist plans and schemes so as to defeat and topple them.

In this regard, the council highly appreciated and viewed with pride the heroic struggle of the Palestinian Arab people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and saluted their valiant uprising in the face of the Zionist enemy's measures, its terrorist acts and settlement policies and its projects of liquidation such as the so-called autonomy or self-rule and other projects. The council reaffirmed the fateful alliance with and complete support to our people in the occupied territories. On behalf of hundreds of thousands of Ba'thists and millions of Arabs, the council sends its greetings of struggle to the brave fighters who raise aloft the Palestinians banner and pledges it will continue the struggle to liberate Palestine so that the Palestinian flag can be raised over an independent Palestinian state. The council expressed its high appreciation for the struggle of the Egyptian people and their pan-Arab and progressive forces which have proved the Egyptian people's genuine Arab identity and their adherence to the unionist and progressive pan-Arab path of struggle; their desire to uphold the pan-Arab causes, foremost of which the Palestinian cause; and their continuing resistance to the Camp David plot, the peace deal with Israel and the normalization of relations with it.

On the international level, the council gave great importance to the significant and positive development of relations between the party and its revolution in Syria and the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union with whom relations were promoted to the level of a friendship and cooperation treaty, which embodies the profound relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, and the world's progressive and freedom parties and forces, particularly the national liberation movements and the patriotic and progressive regimes in the Third World and within the Nonaligned Movement. The council expressed its satisfaction with this important development and stressed the need for promoting and strengthening this development.

On the party's revolution in Syria and its achievements, the council reviewed the revolution's march and its great achievements in economic development and in laying down the popular democratic bases despite the difficult circumstances which faced it. The council referred to certain negative aspects which appeared on the fringes of this great development and reviewed the measures and acts which have been taken to remedy the negative aspects, and the positive results realized by these measures and acts. The council affirmed that these achievements constitute the bastion of the revolution's steadfastness in Syria and its ability to confront all sorts of challenges and plots, particularly the moves and schemes of the counterrevolutionary forces and their tool, the agent gang of the Muslim Brotherhood, which have been firmly confronted and dealt severe blows.

The council highly praised the party's revolution in the country and the wise and brave leadership of the party's comrade secretary general and the firm and decisive confrontation of the Brotherhood gang and of the agents of the reactionary regimes and the parties of the Camp David plot. The council underlined the necessity of exerting greater effort and continuing the work in order to bolster the instrinsic power of Syria, which has been rapidly developing in the past period economically, militarily, politically and popularly and now it constitutes the basic pillar of the entire Arab steadfastness.

The council expressed its strong condemnation and denunciation of the brutal massacre carried out by the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang in the Al-Azbakiyah quarter of steadfast Damascus. It was a vicious crime which stamps the criminal gang with brutality, betrayal of the cause of the people and the homeland and immortality.

In the party field, the council reviewed the positive development and achievements in further strengthening the party's national organizations, particularly since the building of the party national organizations in a number of the Arab states has reached an advanced level. The council stressed the need to give special priority to the building and further strengthening of the party organizations at the national level and the importance of creating the leading Ba'thist who struggles for the sake of our great party's principle in unity, liberation and socialism.

The council reviewed the command's plans for the next year in this field, and adopted them after making the necessary ammendments. The council expressed satisfaction with the results achieved in this regard, stressing that they should be encouragement for greater success in the coming phase.

Comrade Ba'thists, on strugglers in the Arab homeland and elsewhere: The Ba'th Party's Pan-Arab Council has confirmed the soundness of the political course as defined by the resolutions and directives of the 13th national congress. This course stands as a solid ground for more work and struggle in order to further consolidate the elements of the Arab steadfastness and facilitate the eventual victory which our party, people and all the forces of the Arab steadfastness and liberation aspire to. Our battle is long and hard. And as the comrade secretary general of the party said in his address to the council, our battle is continuing because it is a battle to defend the Arab presence and fate. The strugglers of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, as they pledge to continue on the path of steadfastness and struggle, realize the extent of their serious responsibilities. They vow to remain honest soldiers who will lead the ranks in order to defeat the imperialist-Zionist reactionary onslaught and to achieve victory for the principles of our great party and our Arab nation in unity, liberation and socialism.

May our mission be immortal.

[Signed] Damascus, January 1982. The National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party

U.S. URGED TO CHANGE ATTITUDE TOWARD ISRAEL

JN021816 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Station Commentary]

[Text] In accordance with the UN Security Council's resolution on the Zionist enemy's aggressive and illegal measure on the Golan last month, former UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim made a report on Israel's response to UN Security Council's request to cancel its illegal step of applying Israeli laws on the occupied areas of the Syrian Arab Golan.

In his last report as UN secretary general, Waldheim says the Israeli Government has sent a reply to him via its UN representative Yehuda Blum refusing to adhere to the UN Security Council's resolution and clinging to its aggressive illegal step. The Israeli reply was expected, because the history of the racist Zionist entity, which was established in Palestine, is one of continued contradiction with the principles of the UN Charter and resolutions. Israel has broken all records in violating the UN Charter and resolutions and challenging the will, laws and norms of the international community.

The justifications of the Israeli reply to Waldheim's efforts to implement the UN Security Council's resolution, show Israel's intransigence and blatant challenge to the international community. These justifications do not mention the UN principles which ban the annexation of another's land by force, international law, states' sovereignty over their own territories or the 1949 Geneva Convention on treatment of civilians during war and under occupation. These justifications talk about Syria's abstention from entering negotiations with Israel. What strange and improper logic in a world of international laws. Hasn't anyone in the history of international law ever thought of inventing an article allowing a state to annex the lands of another state simply because the latter refused to enter negotations with the former one or because it refused to succumb to aggression and occupation? Just as Israel is the only state in the entire world that does not announce its border lines, it is also the only state that permits itself to expand into others' territories under the pretext that its security demands that it spread its border lines deep into the territories of neighboring states. Not only this, but Israel is also the only state that refused to abide by UN principles and the UN Charter as well as the international community.

Naturally, Israel is too little and too weak to impose its will on the international community. However, the international community's silence over Israel's aggressive and expansionist acts will exacerbate the already dangerous situation in the Middle East and further threaten the peace of the region and the world. Although the UN Security Council unanimously agreed on the resolution asking Israel to cancel its aggressive and expansionist step and decided to meet again on 5 January to discuss the adoption of appropriate measures if Israel fails to adhere to this request, Israel's response will be a real test of the UN Security Council's members, particularly the United States which agreed to the resolution. Experience has shown U.S. protection of Israel from the judgment of the majority and from the application of sanctions and U.S financial, military and moral support have encourage Israel's leaders to go far in their violation of law, in their aggressive and expansionist practice and challenging the international community.

There is no doubt that the United States, which has yielded to Begin regarding the suspension of the strategic alliance agreements is going to face another test. The United States either appears before the world once more as fully responsible for all Israel's aggressive actions, which defy the United Nations and threaten peace, security and stability, or it adopts an attitude which is in harmony with its responsibilities as a permanent member of the Security Council and committed to the provisions of the UN Charter and resolutions.

AL-BA'TH ON ARAB ROLE REGARDING UN RESOLUTIONS

JN050947 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 5 Jan 82

[Text] Damascus, 5 Jan (SANA) -- In a comment today, AL-BA'TH says Israel is an aggressive state which has existed on aggression since its establishment in this region. Israel will not change its policy and expansionist designs against the Arab nation and will not leave any local or international opportunity unexploited in the interest of its own entity, the paper adds.

The paper asks: What will be the Arab role in confronting Zionist aggression and arrogance? What have the Arabs planned against the Israeli decisions, which will not stop at the annexation of the Golan, but will inevitably go beyond that to the annexation of the West Bank and other, larger parts of Arab territory?

AL-BA'TH also asks: On the other hand, what can the Arabs do to carry out the UN Security Council resolution which considers the Israeli annexation of the Golan null and void and which gives the Arabs every right to use the appropriate means to safeguard their rights and dignity?

The paper says: If the UN Security Council adopted resolutions punishing the Zionist entity for rebelling against the resolutions of the world organization, would the Arabs wait until the world organization took some action to implement its resolutions or would they themselves assume the responsibility of carrying out and applying these resolutions through a serious confrontation against Zionist aggression?

AL-BA'TH says: Safeguarding Arab rights is the sole responsibility of the Arabs. It is useless to expect world support when the Arabs themselves are submissive and unable to face Israeli aggression. Is it not time for effective unified Arab action? Is it not the duty of the Arabs to be ready for a decisive battle with Israel?

The paper asserts that if the Arabs do not very quickly move to the offensive and all-out confrontation against Israel, the latter will attack and launch an aggression. Israel is determined now more than at any time before to carry out some sort of a military action so as to create a new fait accompli in the region, which would allow it more maneuverability to achieve its objectives and end its frustrating isolation in the world.

AL-BA'TH concludes: The Arabs must not be deceived by all the proposed plans to solve the Arab-Zionist conflict. They are no more than maneuverings by imperialist and Zionist circles to create suitable circumstances that would enable them to achieve their objectives in the region. The decisive moment is bound to come, and the Arabs must be ready for it, because Israel only understands the language of force. Arab rights can only be achieved and safeguarded by Arab power.

TISHRIN URGES FURTHER UN ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL

JN051044 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0825 GMT 5 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Damascus, 5 Jan (SANA) -- In a comment today, TISHRIN says: It is no secret that when Syria takes firm and courageous action on the Arab and international levels to confront the Israeli expansionist and aggressive decision, it is doing so in its capacity as the country involved with this new aggression on the domestic, pan-Arab and international levels.

The paper adds: When Syria intensifies its confrontation and strengthens its steadfastness against the enemies of the Arab nation and their agents, Syria is performing a great pan-Arab and international task from a high sense of responsibility toward the world, which is threatened by the belligerence, arrogance and recklessness of Israeli decisions.

TISHRIN explains: The unanimous world initiative in denouncing the Golan annexation decision, considering it null and void and calling on Israel to cancel and rescind the decision or expose itself to sanctions, is an initiative that must be followed up by the world through the United Nations and its various organizations, headed by the Security Council, to prove, just once, its ability to deter the racist and fascist Zionists and their expansionist plans against Arab territory, Arab rights and the Arab individual.

FRENCH DIPLOMAT SUMMONED ON CHEYSSON STATEMENTS

JN041305 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The assistant foreign minister today summoned the French charge d'affaires in Damascus and expressed his surprise and astonishment and the Syrian Government's objection to statements by Mr Cheysson, French external affairs minister, in Cairo on Israel's recent measure annexing the Golan.

The charge d'affaires was informed that such statements would certainly have a negative effect on Syrian-French relations in particular, and Arab-French relations in general.

The assistant foreign minister added: We notice from such statements and the previous series of statements by Minister Cheysson that France wants to distance themselves from the Arabs.

ATH-THAWRAH RAPS FRENCH MIDEAST POLICY

JN050925 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0820 GMT 5 Jan 82

[Text] Damascus, 5 Jan (SANA) -- In a commentary today, ATH-THAWRAH says that all indications are that the French Government is pushing relations with the Arab nation in the opposite direction to the real French stand begun with France's decision to participate in the [Sinai] multinational force and the French Government's implicit support for the Camp David accords.

Under the headline "Cheysson Contradicts Logic and France's Interests," the newspaper adds: Despite warning voices raised in the Arab homeland aimed at enlightening France on its real interests, developments in the French stand do not indicate that those responsible for French policy have properly absorbed the facts and are even stepping up their bias in favor of Israeli aggression against the Arab nation.

The newspaper points out that the new hostile French step is not satisfied with rebelling against successive French governments' policy which tried to adopt a balanced policy toward the situation in the region, but it also conflicts with the principles the socialists publicized during their election campaign and after their assumption of power.

It adds: It is strange that those responsible for French foreign policy grow so careless as to ignore the principles of international law and resolutions by the United Nations and international organizations. The matter simply means that French foreign policy has yielded to Zionist extortion attempts to such an extent that France is excusing the law of the jungle and is acclimatized to the logic of aggression.

Regarding Cheysson's statements on the Golan, the paper wonders if by these statements France wants to alienate itself from the Arabs, especially since these statements will certainly reflect negatively on France's relations with Syria in particular and the Arab nation in general.

Concluding, ATH-THAWRAH says France has to take into consideration the fact that Syria and the whole Arab nation are determined to liberate the occupied Arab territories, including the Golan, and restore the Palestinian Arab people's national rights through that large world support which cannot yield to Zionist extortion attempts, and the only loser in adopting a policy conflicting with what is right and just is France and its interests.

PDRY SOLDIERS SAID TO JOIN SYRIANS ON GOLAN

TA041538 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the Syrian Army forces deployed on the Golan Heights have recently been joined by soldiers of the PDRY Army. Syrian Druze residents told this to their family members from Israel in a meeting held at the Majdal Shams border pass.

POST: YAMIT SETTLERS GET 'SIGNALS' TO REMAIN

TA030750 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Jan 82 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Yamit -- Activists of the movement to stop the withdrawal from Sinai claim that they are receiving clear signals from certain senior government sources to stay put in the settlements in the Yamit region, since there is a chance that the final withdrawal may actually not take place by the April 25 deadline.

One of the leaders of the movement, Yosi Mas, a founding member of Moshav Sadot in the Rafah area stated on Friday during an improvised press tour there that, basing himself on the bases of these signals, he believes that the settlers will be able to remain in their homes after April 25.

Reluctant to identify any of these government sources, Mas said that they included some of the senior Cabinet ministers, though not Prime Minister Menahem Begin himself.

As to the attitude of Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon, Mas asserted that the anti-withdrawal movement was given the impression that he was still keeping both options open -- withdrawal, according to the deadline specified in the peace treaty, and a possible delay or suspension of the final withdrawal when the time comes.

EHRLICH, YAMIT COMMITTEE BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS

TA031643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Acting Prime Minister and Agriculture Minister Simha Ehrlich has threatened to resign from the chairmanship of the committee dealing with the compensation for the Yamit district settlers. Our political correspondent has learned that Ehrlich viewed it as an expression of nonconfidence in him and in the committee when Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir suggested that all the committee's decisions be brought to the Cabinet for approval.

Remarks made by Ehrlich and Defense Minister Sharon today indicate that Israel will leave most of the buildings in the Yamit district. According to them, due to the short period remaining until the evacuation, the removal of many buildings by whatever technique employed, will be impossible.

The director general of the Agriculture Ministry believes that he will reach an agreement with the Yamit residents even before the middle of January. He said this at the end of the first day of negotiations between the Yamit Action Committee and the Agriculture Ministry.

MINISTERS DIVIDED IN VIEWS OF YAMIT EVACUATION

TA032022 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Report by political correspondent Elimelekh Ram]

[Text] The struggle for power within the Herut Movement finds expression also in the positions adopted by ministers regarding the method that should be adopted in order to solve the Yamit problem.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi heads the group of ministers opposed to the position of Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon who supports the idea that the settlers be evacuated all at once just before April 1982. Minister David Levi is backed by six ministers including Herut ministers Corfu and Tzipori. The seven ministers who support Sharon include only one Herut minister, Ya'aqov Meridor. Ministers Aridor and Shamir have abstained from adopting a position. The result then is that most of the Herut ministers are against Sharon.

The ministers who demand the adoption of immediate measures against the Yamit lawbreakers say that the government makes decisions but does not act upon them. Minister David Levi says that we are witnessing a grave violation of the law whose implications are far reaching and unacceptable. David Levi claims that the negotiations with the ministerial committee on the Yamit issue will be resumed with the sword threatening violence hanging over our heads. Levi says that the law should be fully applied to lawbreakers, that future acts of violence should be prevented and that trespassing throughout the Yamit district should likewise be prevented.

The position of those supporting moderation in dealing with Yamit, led by Minister Sharon, is: it is pointless to repent past sins today. Since the Cabinet made its decision last week there were no disturbances and as long as the negotiations last there is no use causing an escalation.

A government source told me today that the Cabinet disucssion this morning revealed the poignancy of the problem. The ministerial Defense Committee will be faced with rather an uneasy decision since both groups of ministers are right.

SOURCES SAY BEGIN WILL NOT ANNEX WEST BANK

TA030822 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Jan 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin does not intend to annex Judaea and Samaria, sources in Jerusalem said yesterday evening, in reaction to the remarks by U.S. President Ronald Reagan that such an act would spell the end of the peace process that was launched at Camp David.

The sources added that Reagan had said this in reply to a question -- that is, not at his own initiative. They said that this kind of annexation would indeed by detrimental to the Camp David process.

Ten New Nahal Outposts

TA041035 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jan 82 pp 1, 3

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpt] About 10 nahal outposts -- some of which will eventually become permanent settlements -- are currently being established or will be established in the near future in Judaea and central Samaria.

The outposts are being established by the IDF and settlement elements are not officially involved in their establishment. One outpost is slated to be erected on top of the southern slope of Mount Gerizim overlooking Nabulus. It will be the Israeli settlement closest to Nabulus. Nevertheless, security sources last night denied that there are plans to turn it into some kind of "upper Nabulus." According to security sources, there are not sufficient reserves of state-owned land in the Mount Gerizim area and, at this stage, such a site has the potential to become only a small settlement.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent notes that other nahal outposts are being established on the Mount Hebron slopes. A decision on their establishment by either the Cabinet or the ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs is not required since at this stage they are being established for security reasons. It has been learned further that there has been a massive purchase of land. It has been reported that this purchase will make it possible to establish a new settlement with a large land potential.

The Samaritan publication ALEF-BET reported the establishment of a nahal outpost on Mount Gerizim in its latest edition, noting that it would eventually become a permanent settlement. ALEF-BET further reported that an outpost named "Brakha" would be established at the beginning of April on a site allocated opposite the Samaritan community, about 1.5 km from the top of the southern slope of Mount Gerizim and at a similar distance south of Kafr Gallil. This outpost will be established according to a decision of the ministerial Committee on Security Affairs and at the initiative of Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

BI'R ZAYT UNIVERSITY ALLOWED TO REOPEN

TA041017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Studies resumed this morning at Bi'r Zayt University after a closure lasting 2 months by order of the Military Government because of student rioting. A university spokesman told our correspondent, Arye Gus, that no restrictions or conditions had been imposed on studies. He stressed that the university authorities would not be able to control the students outside the campus. Most of the university's student council members will not be able to arrive because they have been confined to their places of residence.

MA'ARIV: HAIG WANTS TO PROMOTE AUTONOMY TALKS

TA041228 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Jan 82 p 3

[Report by Yosef Harif]

[Text] What would be Israel's opinion about the possible appointment of Dr Henry Kissinger as the U.S. chief representative to the autonomy talks? Senator Charles Percy posed this question to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in their meeting last week when they discussed the issue of the autonomy talks. The U.S. Senator also posed the same question to Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. Neither minister replied either in the negative or in the affirmative because it was not clear whether it was an official question posed on behalf of the administration.

Minister Shamir referred to a report from Cairo that the former assistant secretary of state, Joseph Sisco, may be appointed U.S. representative to the autonomy talks. Shamir noted that Israel has not been informed yet about it but it was possible that the United States was contemplating this possibility. The foreign minister also pointed out that Sisco was not the only candidate.

Israel had got word that, for instance, former national security adviser Brent Scowcroft has also been mentioned as a candidate for the post.

The appointment of a U.S. representative to the autonomy talks has now become an issue of particular interest because U.S. Secretary of State Haig believes that the autonomy talks should be approached with renewed momentum in order to reach an agreement before 26 April 1982, namely, before Israel has pulled out from the rest of the Sinai. On two occasions Haig told Israeli representatives that he intends to get deeply and personally involved in the autonomy talks, hoping to promote them. Nevertheless, it is clear that due to his many occupations in the international arena Haig would not be able to be the permanent representative and, what is more, not all the autonomy talks would be conducted on the ministerial level. Therefore, the United States is trying to find a senior and reputable candidate to emphasize that it seriously intends to promote the talks on the establishment of an autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district.

Mr Shamir believes that the crisis in U.S.-Israeli relations is approaching its end and that within a few days, after the Security Council completes its deliberations on the Golan Heights Law, the dialogue between Washington and Jerusalem will strengthen. The foreign minister bases this evaluation on the talks in Washington between Secretary Haig and Ambassador Efrayim 'Evron and the words Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche heard from Haig. It may be concluded from both these talks that although the U.S. administration was hurt by the fact that Israel took it by surprise on the issue of the Golan Heights Law, it believes that an understanding should be reached with Israel and that the differences in their positions should not tarnish mutual relations.

Last week Senator Percy told Prime Minister Menahem Begin that the United States would cast a veto at the Mecurity Council if it calls for imposing sanctions on Israel in the wake of the Golan Heights Law.

The Cabinet did not conduct a political debate yesterday. However, from various observations made by ministers it may be concluded that the Cabinet is ill at ease about certain utterances made by authoritative Egytian representatives in Cairo. For instance, the ministers noted the remarks of Egyptian ambassador to Washington Ashraf Ghurbal in an interview with an U.S. newspaper a few days ago where he called on the United States to reduce aid to Israel. Dr Butrus Ghali said that autonomy, whose principles are currently being discussed by Egypt, Israel and the United States, must constitute a bridge toward the establishment of self-determination for the Palestinians and he called on the EC countries to take an initiative in this direction.

On the issue of autonomy, the head of the Israeli team to the talks, Dr Yosef Burg, added that he had discussed the issue with the prime minister and that both of them had reached the conclusion that the gap between the Egyptian and Israeli positions was still wide. In this context, Burg pointed out that MK Yitzhaq Rabin had stated last week that the Arabs of east Jerusalem should be allowed to participate in elections to the autonomy institutions whereas Israel is opposed to this position.

Jerusalem is awaiting an authoritative announcement from the U.S. administration regarding the resumption of the autonomy talks and about U.S. representation. Israel had specific information only as regards the fact that Secretary of State Haig intends to come to Israel at the beginning of February to resume the autonomy talks. The U.S. ambassadors to Israel and Egypt, Samuel Lewis and Alfred Atherton, have been summoned to Washington to examine the complex questions concerning the resumption of these talks.

BEGIN CRITICIZES 'HOSTILE' EGYPTIAN PRESS

TA041101 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jan 82 p 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] In his latest message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Menahem Begin complained about Egyptian utterances which are incompatible with the Camp David accords.

In his message the prime minister provided several examples of reports hostile to Israel in the Egyptian press. Mr Begin's position encountered the support of various Cabinet ministers who have in the last few days complained that the Egyptians are again mentioning solutions to the Israeli-Arab conflict unacceptable to Israel, such as the establishment of a Palestinian state or the inclusion of Europe in the peace process. The Cabinet ministers contend that these Egyptian positions are not compatible with the Camp David accords and that their timing is strange, in wake of U.S. intentions to spur the negotiations on the autonomy which is the solution Israel and Egypt agreed upon at Camp David. Cabinet ministers have also complained about Egypt's support for the notion of imposing sanctions on Israel in the wake of annexation of the Golan Heights. Among those expressing their views in such a spirit is Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i who recently said that it is necessary to recontemplate the Sinai withdrawal.

It has further been learned that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that the U.S. administration has realized that it must urgently give a push to the autonomy negotiations and that it had erred when it abstained from doing so before. The foreign minister believes that Israeli-U.S. relations are apparently improving.

Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche last night left on a 2-day visit to Egypt. Kimche will discuss the acceleration of the normalization in Israeli-Egyptian relations with Butrus Ghali and other Foreign Ministry officials. Israel wants to further deepen and enrich the relationship between the two countries before 26 April 1982.

RADIO: SAUDIS PULL OUT 'MODERATION RABBIT'

TA031918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal said, in an interview with the New York TIMES published today, that Saudi Arabia would be prepared to accept Israel, provided it returned all the territories and recognized the rights of the Palestinian people. These remarks made front page headlines in Israel and the West, but our Arab affairs correspondent, Aharon Barne'a, says that the Saudi foreign minister's interview is not entirely untarnished by intentional messages, whose main target is the Washington White House.

[Begin Barne'a recording] In timing that is not accidental, the Saudis once again pulled out the moderation rabbit, this time 2 days before the UN Security Council convenes to discuss the Syrian proposal urging sanctions on Israel. Just as they did on the eve of the Senate debate that preceded the approval of the AWACS deal, when they first introduced Amir Fahd's plan, the Saudis again -- this time through Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal -- have played a tune that is pleasing to the U.S. administration's ears with regard to the Israeli-Arab conflict.

Even though Sa'ud al-Faysal said the Fahd plan is still alive, despite the differences of opinion on it -- the same differences that led to the termination of the Arab summit in Fes -- the fact remains that at least at this stage, the Saudis have no proof about any kind of change in the positions of the Arab countries that oppose the plan with Syria, the chief spokesman of the latter group.

It was Amir Fahd himself who said in an interview with a Saudi newspaper that the Saudi plan was not on President al-Asad's agenda when the latter visited Riyadh about 10 days ago. In that same interview, Fahd said -- and I quote -- that Saudi Arabia would support any Arab effort to realize the Arab goals in the most proper and fitting way, whether this is a Saudi effort or any other proposal. [end recording]

Riyadh Denies Recognition

TA040810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Saudi Arabia has officially denied remarks attributed to its foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, to the effect that Riyadh would be ready to recognize Israel under certain conditions. In an interview published by the New York TIMES, the Saudi politician said that his country would be ready to recognize Israel provided it withdrew from all the territories and recognized the rights of the Palestinians. The Saudi official news agency now says that Prince Sa'ud was misunderstood, and that Riyadh's position remains the same. Saudi Arabia demands not only that Israel withdraw from all the territories, but that it allow the Palestinians to establish a state in the territories it evacuates. The statement makes no mention of the PLO.

MA'ARIV COMMENTARY ON SAUDI MIDEAST POLICY

TA041454 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Jan 82 p 5

[Moshe Zaq commentary: "Caution: Mines.'"]

[Text] To a large extent, the crisis in Poland overshadowed the violent conflict which erupted between the United States and Libya a few weeks ago. The United States claimed that Al-Qadhdhafi had sent "hit squads" to the United States to strike against U.S. administration officials and President Reagan ordered all U.S. citizens to leave Libya and even stopped oil purchases from Libya. In the midst of the crisis Saudi Arabia, an ally of the United States, hastened to resume diplomatic relations with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

This was a most unfriendly act toward the United States on the part of the Saudis. Yet, the Americans gritted their teeth and remained silent.

This is not the first time that Saudi Arabia has struck against U.S. policy in the Middle East. The Americans have a military base in Oman to defend the Hormuz Straits, through which oil from the Persian Gulf flows. Suddenly, the Washington POST correspondent in Riyadh reports that the Saudis have offered over $1 billion to the Omani ruler in exchange for the cancellation of their contract with the United States. And the Americans are still silent. They are entertaining the illusion that the partnership between Saudi Arabia and Oman will ultimately assure them control over the bases in Oman.

The same holds true regarding the two Saudi plans affecting us: the plan for a settlement in Lebanon and the plan for a settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict.

For many months Israel pleaded with the U.S. administration to seek an Israeli-Egyptian agreement on the autonomy issue before Israel completes the pullback from the Sinai.

But the U.S. administration, fearing failure, did not rush to act in that direction. Secretary of State Haig is now gearing himself to accelerate the autonomy negotiations, and precisely at this time the Saudi foreign minister deems fit to resume his initiative in the U.S. Israeli-Arab settlement. By publishing this initiative in the U.S. press he is trying to create the impression that he is certain of U.S. administration support. The resumed initiative does more than hint to President Mubarak that he should not rush to agree to the autonomy formula.

Referring to the Saudi plan, the head of the PLO's Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, has recently said: "In 1976 we submitted a proposal to the UN Security Council which was more moderate than the Saudi plan, yet the United States vetoed it." In the same interview with a Beirut newspaper, Qaddumi added: "I do not object to political activities. We are not extremists. We are grateful to our Saudi brethern and we are pressuring them so that, in turn, they exert pressure on America."

Indeed, Saudi Arabia is currently fulfilling this role. It is exerting pressure, trying to foil U.S. efforts to reach an Israeli-Egyptian agreement on the autonomy issue before 26 April. And the Americans remain silent.

Saudi activities concerning Lebanon are even more severe. On this matter, the U.S. administration has been struck blind. The administration, pleased that Saudi mediation enabled it to open a dialogue with Syria, frequently thanks Saudi Arabia for its assistance in achieving a cease-fire in Lebanon.

Under cover of the cease-fire and the dialogue with Al-Asad the Syrians are gradually preparing for a total take-over of Lebanon amid promises granting autonomy to the Christians. The plan is not designed to be implemented immediately, but during the elections scheduled to be held later this year in Lebanon.

Aside from the fact that this take over might cause a significant change in the balance of power between Israel and Syria, it might also expand the Soviet Union's area of influence in the region.

Yet, the U.S. administration is not aware of this possible change. It is still entertaining delusions about reliance on Saudi Arabia, a country with enough dollars to buy supporters anywhere in the world but lacking sufficient strength to overcome internal fears. Saudi Arabia tries to buy internal calm by supporting all extremist moves in the Arab world. It resumes diplomatic relations with Al-Qadhdhafi in the midst of a serious row between him and President Reagan, it tries to drive the United States away from Oman, it attempts to upset U.S. efforts to reach an agreement on autonomy for the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el and, over and above everything else, it paves the way for Syrians to take over Lebanon.

Through its desire to please the extremists in the Arab world and thus assure internal calm, Saudi Arabia has come up with a plan that even the head of the PLO's Political Department regards as more extreme than the PLO's proposal to the UN Security Council, but, at the same time Saudi Arabia is upsetting the peace between Israel and Egypt in these critical days on the eve of the completion of the Sinai withdrawal. Moreover, Saudi Arabia has again raised its demand that Egypt hand back the isles of Tiran and Sanafir at the southern access to the Elat Gulf, after Israel evacuates them. This is another mine Saudi Arabia is placing on the road to Israeli-Egyptian understanding.

UN COMMANDER ON SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION

TA041651 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Gen Emanuel Erskine, head of the staff of UN observers in the Middle East, said today: The terrorists in southern Lebanon are interested in a continuation of the cease-fire, and as far as we know they have not introduced long-range weapons into the area. General Erskine made the statement during a news conference held for the UN observers in Tiberias, from where our correspondent, Gay Zucker, reports:

[Begin recording] [Erskine, in English] I have not received any reports of long-range weapons coming to the area; I haven't had any reports from the UNIFIL command in southern Lebanon.

[Zucker translates the aforesaid into Hebrew and continues] In my talks with UN representatives I got the impression that they are interested in maintaining the cease-fire in the area. And, regarding the situation on the Syrian-Israeli border, Erskine said: The sector is calm; we have not noticed any changes or movement of forces on the Syrian side. The area is quiet. [end recording]

KNESSET CONDEMNS MILITARY TAKEOVER IN POLAND

TA041829 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The Knesset has condemned the military takeover in Poland and the suppression of human rights there. The Knesset demands that the Solidarity organization members be released, that free union activity be resumed and that no external intervention occur in Poland. This condemnation was made following the debate on the government's statement over the struggle for liberty in Poland. All Knesset factions supported it, except the HADASH faction. MAPAM Knesset members and MK Yosi Sarid and MK Shulamit Aloni abstained from the vote, explaining that they could not join in the decision with the Likud since the Likud government does all it can to break the professional unions in Israel.

Cabinet Statement

TA041550 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Cabinet statement on the Polish situation; read by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir before the Knesset on 4 Jan -- recorded]

[Text] The inquisitive will ask: What business have we, citizens of the small state of Israel, burdened with probelms and numberous risks, with the struggle of Poland for liberty and democracy? We do have indeed a deep historical link with the Polish nation, which has lasted for more than 1000 years -- a link that has experienced various eras and various turns. Many of us were born on Polish soil, were educated in Poland as Zionists and came from it to liberate and build their homeland. But many more -- indeed millions -- were annihilated in that country by the Germans and with the active help of many members of the Polish nation. The account is a long and profound one. Even in the last few days information has reached us about anti-Semitic propaganda, despite the fact that almost no Jews have remained in that country.

But it is not this account which makes us look at what is happening in Poland today. We are a democratic country. We believe it is the duty of democratic countries, which constitute a minority in the world today, to act together to defend and advance democracy, and when Poland is trodden down cruelly for its desire to be free, the democratic world must stand up and help it.

PERES ASKS ALIGNMENT NOT TO FORM FACTIONS

TA312022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has called on MK Yosi Sarid not to rally the doves in the Alignment and to agree to an interval of several months during which party members will abstain from forming groups within the party.

Speaking at a meeting of the Labor Party secretariat in the Haifa district, Peres said he categorically rejects MK Ra'anan Na'im's proposal to dismantle the Alignment. He also expressed his regret over the remarks by Arye Nehmqin regarding socialist Zionist education. He noted that this was the type of education that had built the state but that he had never objected to religion.

Peres also said that any chance for peace should not be ignored. He expressed concern at the fact that Begin and Sharon are not treading this road and are thus isolating Israel in the world.

Favors Elections After April

TA021822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has said that he will support bringing the Knesset elections forward, provided that they are held after April, because he does not intend to use them to stop the Sinai withdrawal and the peace process. Peres was speaking today in Beersheba. He said the future of the peace process depends on relations between Israel and Egypt up to the withdrawal and during the months after that, when he expects Cairo to attempt to resume relations with Arab countries.

Peres said all the Labor Party factions will oppose any proposal to annex Judaea and Samaria to the State of Israel. He expressed optimism about the Labor Party situation and said the depression it is in will pass within a few months. He attributed the party's loss in the elections to the loss of the edge it had a few days before that because of -- as Peres phrased it -- the miserable statement by Dudu Topaz [entertainer who supported Labor Party and who made remarks alleged to be anti-Sephardic] and the bluff of Ya'aqov Meridor's energy invention.

Opposes 'OMETZ' Faction

TA031411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] The head of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres, expressed opposition to the organizing of separatist factions in his party and called on members of the OMETZ [Political Zionist opposition] group to present their views within the party's existing institutions.

Peres favors open argument and a majority decision as called for in a democracy. In a talk with our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, during a tour of the Galilee village of Mi'ilya, Peres said that if it transpires that the OMETZ group becomes an organized body he will discuss the matter with party officials and will ask for a decision on it.

The head of the OMETZ group -- Prof Ze'ev Strenhall, Knesset Members Sarid, Tzaban and Aloni, and CRM member Meron Benvenisti -- today presented their views in a Tel Aviv news conference. They want to serve as a political, Zionist and fighting opposition. The speakers expressed fear of the dangers luking to democracy as a result of our control over the Arabs and the situation in the territories.

JERUSALEM ARABIC CALLS FOR DIALOGUE WITH ARABS

JN021457 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1125 GMT 2 Jan 82

["Observation" by Ya'qub Khazmah]

[Text] The rumors some are spreading about Israel's not withdrawing from the rest of Sinai in April aim at provoking disputes between Egypt and Israel on the one hand, and at depicting Israel as a state which does not live up to its commitments on the other.

Recently, in a memorandum to President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Menahem Begin removed any doubt about Israel's intentions regarding comprehensive withdrawal from Sinai. Israel concluded a peace treaty with Egypt in order to accurately implement the withdrawal. Israel also expects Egypt to do the same in letter and spirit.

The time that has passed since the signing of the treaty has proven that both Israel and Egypt have completely observed the provisions of the treaty, although Israel hopes that Egypt will not only implement this treaty in letter but also in spirit. Since the signing of the treaty, Egypt's leaders have been asserting that Israel is respectfully implementing its commitments and will undoubtedly implement its commitments regarding its complete withdrawal from Sinai next April. Thus, all those who doubt Israel's intentions will be assured that their doubts were misplaced. Moreover, those who still believe in the principle of what is taken by force cannot be restored except by force, will be assured that this principle is groundless and that adhering to it does not change anything.

The dialogue between Egypt and Israel which resulted in the signing of the Camp David accords and the peace treaty is the ideal method to solve differences regardless of their dimensions and aspects, only by dialogue can satisfactory solutions to differences be reached. Without dialogue it will not only be impossible to find solutions but problems will also increase and become more complicated day by day.

BRIEFS

FUEL PRICES INCREASE -- Gasoline prices went up at midnight by an average of 15 percent. This followed consultations between the Energy and Finance Ministries over changes in the currency exchange rate. The increase is also in line with government policy not to subsidize raw materials. A liter of 94 octane fuel will now cost 10.1 shekels, and 83 octane gasoline will cost 8.4 shekels. Diesel fuel is now priced at 7.3 shekels, and kerosene is now 8 shekels a liter. Industrial fuel has also gone up in price by 15 percent. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Jan 82 TA]

LIBYA

GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SEVENTH SESSION

Al-'Ubaydi Address

LD041448 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Speech by 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, to the seventh session of the General People's Congress at the Al-Amal Hall in Tripoli -- live]

[Text] Before I speak about foreign policy, I wish to make some remarks concerning the report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, as approved by the people's basic conferences. I must point out that the realization of the popular work or objectives in regard to our foreign relations was completed last January following the meeting of the General People's Congress: the popular masses marched on the Foreign Secretariat and formed a People's Committee for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. This people's committee is no different from any of the other people's committees formed after the popular revolution of 1973.

In pursuing our foreign policy, we have been guided by the decisions of the people's congresses and by the tasks set forth in resolution No 1356 of the General People's Committee for 1981, pertaining to the organization of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. In our work, we have constantly taken into consideration the norms and guidelines laid down by the Great 1 September Revolution, since its beginning, for our actions in Arab, African, Islamic, international and nonaligned affairs.

As for the report, I am anxious to refer to the current Arab situation. The past year saw a series of Zionist challenges to the Arab nation directed against its entity and existence and affirming the so-called theory of Israeli security which aims at imposing guardianship on the Arabs and their progress and even on their reactions to any aggression. The past year also witnessed and affirmed open American-Zionist aggression against our Arab nation. In short, there was constant aggression against Lebanon and the Palestine resistance. There was also a constant threat to Syria, particularly after it moved missiles to the Biqa'. There was also the aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor and there were constant violations of Saudi airspace and recently the Iraqi airspace.

What has been the Arab reaction to this aggression and challenge? The Arab nation's reply, or rather the official one at least in terms of the Arab League, has not equaled the challenges and threats facing our Arab nation, nor has it equaled the ambitions of the peoples of the Arab nation.

We always received the blows and then called for meetings which came out with cheap statements. We used to receive expressions of solidarity and support from the international community as though all the Arab nation needed [was] -- and [as though] all its objectives were -- to receive the blows and then welcome support and sympathy, whereas the real work for repelling any aggression involves serious military work that is carried out by the Arab nation as a whole.

We all have witnessed this phenomenon. The last Zionist action was the annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights after the Zionist enemy, supported by the United States, came to realize that Syria is the stronghold of steadfastness that prevents the imposition of any capitulationist solutions. Undoubtedly, the aim of this was to carry out the enemy's expansionist policy and to draw Syria by force into solutions which neither Syria nor the Syrian people have accepted or will ever accept. The reply to this annexation decision did not even extend to statements of support. We are waiting to see what decisions will be made by the UN Security Council. It is certain that the United States will veto the imposition of any sanctions against the Zionist enemy. We will then wait and see what the Arab League and the Arab peoples will do after such a decision, particularly Arab League has been summoned to an emergency meeting.

This is the deteroirating Arab situation which prompted the commander of the Great 1 September Revolution, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi [prolonged applause], to state during the celebration of the 11 June anniversary of the American forces [presumably referring to the date when U.S. bases in Libya were closed] that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was prepared to forget its differences with the Arab brothers for the sake of achieving a unified Arab action against the common enemy. Thus we have resumed relations with fraternal Morocco, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. The Libyan leadership and Arab Libyan people have made only one stipulation for the restoration of these relations, the break up of which they have not been responsible for: that the Arab nation adopts a serious stand against the constant U.S.-Zionist offensive against our Arab nation.

As to the African field, I shall be brief. The Jamahiriyah played a role in supporting the people and Government of Chad. There was a feverish reactionary campaign against our country which went so far as to accuse us of occupying and colonizing Chad. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has always affirmed its adherence to its agreement with the Chadian Government for defending the country and leaving it whenever its government wished. We have proved to the world the truthfulness of the Jamahiriyah's claim, that we went [to Chad] only to help the fraternal people and to affirm African solidarity and the African ability to rely on itself. We have disproved to the world the allegations made by imperialism and reaction. Our armed forces have now returned home after having played this great humanitarian role in Africa.

There were also attempts by reactionary quarters in Africa instigated by the United States to prevent the Jamahiriyah from acting as a venue for the forthcoming African summit conference. Yet Africa has proved its ability to act freely and to make its own decisions. The Africans have proved that the Jamahiriyah is in the forefront of the African countries which are anxious to safeguard Africa's freedom and independence. Thus it was decided to hold the conference in our country.

Other prominent events of the year were the attempts by some reactionary quarters in Africa to restore relations between some of the African countries and the Zionist enemy after the OAU had decided to boycott the Zionist regime as being an imperialist racist regime which is no different from South Africa. We can affirm that the United States is behind such attempts, in addition to the agents in the continent. But the Jamahiriyah and other sincere Africans are working to halt such a dangerous line through cordial contacts with all the African brothers.

This is what I wanted to say briefly with respect to the report. The efforts exerted in the foreign field are in fact collective efforts conducted by the popular foreign bureau and the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and our people's bureaus abroad.

As to the agenda item pertaining to the meaning of nonalignment, I must make frank references to the background upon which the item is based.

Since the Reagan administration assumed office in the United States, it has been conducting an organized, continuous campaign against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and its leadership. It has levelled a series of accusations which have no foundation in truth whatsoever. On the other hand, the Reagan administration accuses the Jamahiriyah and its leadership of threatening neighboring African countries and of being a spearhead for Soviet influence in the African continent.

This political campaign has been coupled with a concerted information campaign, an intensive campaign, which has reached the point of trying to make the African and even the Libyan people believe that the commander of the revolution is behind all these accusations. Indeed, their imagination and blind rancor have led them even to hatch plots to liquidate the commander of the revolution. This is nothing new for the American administration. It has liquidated other progressive African leaders.

Then came the U.S. maneuvers in waters which have been declared Libyan territorial waters since 1973, by this I mean the Gulf of Sidra. This resulted in a confrontation last August between our planes and the U.S. planes.

It was evident here that the Libyan Arab people were exposed to a genuine threat by a superpower which was supposed to work with other superpowers to safeguard security and peace in the world.

All this led to a review of the concept of nonalignment during the celebrations of the Great 1 September Revolution last year. In raising this point, the leadership had a number of facts before it: if there are any differences between us and the United States over waters which we insist are our territorial waters that form part of our country, we do not believe dealing with such a matter necessitates the dispatch of fleets to the gulf. It was evident that the aim behind dispatching the fleets was to provoke the Jamahiriyah and clash with it as a pretext for wider military operations.

It was evident to the leadership and the Libyan Arab people that these planes took off from aircraft carriers that did not leave from the United States but from bases in neighboring countries which are members of NATO, which in turn is led by the United States. Hence the clear statement by the leadership that the United States was not in this alone but was a member of NATO, and had it not been for the U.S. bases and facilities in Europe, which is a member of NATO [as heard], the United States would not have been able to stay in the Mediterranean.

In his clarifications during the celebrations of the Great 1 September Revolution, the commander affirmed that there cannot be neutrality should a third world war break out.

There was yet another clear fact: The Libyan Arab people will remain neutral and will uphold nonalignment as long as it is kept away from U.S. pressures, challenges and provocations. The Libyan Arab people do not seek war or join axes. It was the United States that forced the Libyans to reconsider their neutral status. What I mean is that the constant aggressions and threats were what prompted the leadership to raise this matter and what prompted the popular conferences to place it on their agendas.

It is evident that our membership in the nonaligned bloc lays upon our shoulders certain commitments. It also lays counter commitments on the shoulders of the nonaligned group. In as much as we in the Jamahiriyah are anxious to protect our neutrality and nonalignment and ensure that our country is free from any bases whatsoever, particularly as the Libyan Arab people have closed down five bases, of which you all are aware, and therefore will not be happy to have any alternative bases if they have a choice and are kept away from dangers -- the nonaligned group is expected to play an effective political role in protecting its members and checking such aggression by a superpower against the Jamahiriyah.

Another point: The neighboring countries, which are members of NATO, are required not to allow their lands and bases -- perhaps against the will of their peoples -- to be used as a springboard for any aggression against the Jamahiriyah.

Once we believe that aggressions against the Jamahiriyah are checked, that the Nonaligned Movement protects its members, and that the countries neighboring the Jamahiriyah or any other nonaligned country will not allow their territories and ports to be used as springboards for aggression, then there will be no need for the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to reconsider its neutrality. But if there is aggression and threats to the Libyan Arab people and their achievements, then we have no alternative but to ally ourselves with the forces which stand by us and by the liberation movements. These forces are well known to us all, and we have no alternative but to ally ourselves with the enemy of our enemy, and our enemy in this case is the United States of America.

It is evident that the United States seems to overlook several facts: that by its hostile activities against the Jamahiriyah it has made Europe feel the dangers inherent in its policy and thus take a different stand in support of the Jamahiriyah in its conflict with the United States. Most certainly, the Libyan Arab people appreciate this stand, and will always prompt Libya to pursue a policy toward these peoples and governments compatible with these stands. The more they stand against the aggressions, the more we stand by these peoples and deal with them, and the more we all ensure that our Mediterranean region remains free from dangers, wars and threats.

There is yet another fact evident to us all: When the United States says that the commander of the revolution is behind all the false things it accuses him of, it forgets that the Libyan Arab people, with its popular conferences and committees, and with its unions and federations and revolutionary committees, and with its armed people, have all affirmed that they all defend the commander of the revolution and support his thoughts and political lines in the Arab, African and international fields.

One more fact: It has been proved that alliance with the United States and running after U.S. imperialist policies means the end of many regimes. For example, the imperial regime in Iran collapsed before the very eyes of U.S. imperialism. President as-Sadat was assassinated before the very eyes of the American CIA. Somoza in Nicaragua also fell before the will of his people.

We in the Jamahiriyah are confident that these U.S. approaches and this U.S. terrorism will not bother us and will only help to prove our views.

All that we wish to emphasize is that the international groups, that is, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, or the European countries will put an end to this aggression and arrogance by the United States. Our Arab people are anxious to safeguard their neutrality and nonalignment. This is the conclusion I have come out with by following the resolution of the basic popular conferences. Thank you.

Syrian Official's Speech

LD041444 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1205 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Speech by Tawfiq as-Salhah, member of the Regional Command of the Syrian Ba'th Party, at seventh session of General People's Congress at the Al-Amal Hall in Tripoli -- live]

[Excerpts] Brother strugglers, members of the congress, allow me to thank you for the invitation to take part in your meetings.

The two experiments in the two sister regions have great and many common denominators. There is a unionist inclination, and there is one socialist inclination, and there is one political line of hostility to imperialism, Zionism and the agent reaction linked to them. There is the deep belief of the two revolutions in strengthening, deepening and developing relations with the forces of liberation and progress in the world and with the socialist camp, headed by the Soviet Union, which is friendly to our Arab people.

Moreover, there is the great common denominator that we in both regions absolutely believe that power lies in the hands of the people, and that the people are the source of everything. This is sufficient to realize the unity between us. In any event, whether the unity comes now or if it is delayed, every citizen should know that we are in one trench and that we are one army. When there is an aggression against the sister Libyan region, the enemies will find the Syrian valiant armed forces fighting on revolutionary Libyan territory. [applause] Also, the enemies will find the Libyan Armed Forces fighting on Syrian territory. This has been decided. We are in one trench fighting against the Arab nation's enemies wherever they are.

We all must know, regardless of what some people say, that we brothers maintain our positive neutrality and that we belong to the nonaligned group. This is what we believe in. We differentiate between enemies and the friends.

America should know that it is the number one enemy of the Arab nation, that it is responsible for the destruction, the destitution, the occupation, and for every drop of blood being shed in our Arab homeland. There is no friendship for America in our Arab homeland, it is only from the agents. Our friend is the Soviet Union, with whose weapons we are defending ourselves, and which stands by our just stances and on the side of our national and pan-Arab causes, and the repressed struggling peoples.

The U.S. plot will not succeed in our Arab region, regardless of the number of American bases, the forces it sets up or the agents it finds. The U.S. plot will not succeed. We know this will cost us very dearly. We also know that the price of freedom and dignity is also very costly. We have decided to stand fast and to fight to the last drop of our blood, regardless of how great the plot, or how many its parties and (?choices) become.

However much America and its agents try to pressure us, they will be mistaken. Either we live with our heads held high with dignity, or we die also with our heads held high and with dignity. [applause]

If America thinks that revolutionary Syria, or revolutionary Libya or the Palestinian revolution is an easy prey, then it is also mistaken. It will find all in one trench fighting it, and triumphing behind them the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, all the Arab masses and all the forces of progress and liberation in the world, and the socialist camp headed by the friendly Soviet Union. The treaty of friendship between us and the Soviet Union is to achieve a strategic balance in the region, especially, as Brother 'Abd al-'Ati mentioned, in view of the strategic cooperation agreement between America and the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine.

If they have taken an American-Zionist decision to annex the Golan in reply to our national and pan-Arab stand, this will not affect our steadfastness. The Golan territory to us is like the Sinai territory, the West Bank and every occupied inch of our Arab territory. We shall go to battle at the appropriate time to liberate all the Arab territory.

Let America and its agent know that there will be no peace in the region other than the peace we, the masters of the rifle, know, represented in unconditional, full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, the restoration of firm rights to our Palestinian Arab people, including the establishment of their independent state on their national territory. No peace, no negotiations and no surrender of one inch of territory! America and its agent must know this.

He who signed the Camp David agreements was killed. The traitor Anwar as-Sadat was killed despite the imperialist and reactionary protection accorded to him. Let Husni Mubarak and all other agents know that their fate will be no different from that of As-Sadat because the path of traitors is death, and life is only for the honorable.

REPORTS ON ATTEMPT ON AL-QADHDHAFI 'INACCURATE'

NC041921 Athens Armed Forces Radio in Greek 1900 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The Libyan Embassy in Athens has described as inaccurate press reports about an alleged attempt to assassinate Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

FBI FAILS TO PROVE HIT TEAMS SENT TO U.S.

LD041532 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The U.S. FBI Director William Webster acknowledged the failure of the U.S. administration to produce any evidence to confirm its allegations about the existence of an alleged Libyan hit squad to assassinate President Reagan and some of his aides. Last night, AFP reported a statement by the FBI director made to the ABC television network, in which he said: We have never been able to get any evidence concerning the existence of an assassination squad directed from Libya to assassinate the President and some of his aides.

The JANA political commentator made the following comment: The U.S. administration has flagrantly and intentionally spread fabrications and false allegations against the Jamahiriyah in the course of its conspiracies against and hostility toward the Libyan Arab people. The U.S. administration's attempt to prove that the Jamahiriyah has sent an alleged assassination squad to America to assassinate President Reagan has met with failure.

The commentator adds that the acknowledgement of the FBI director has come to confirm this failure and to show public opinion that the U.S. administration is unable to face the American people and international public opinion with facts and evidence, which the Jamahiriyah has asked for and insisted upon. The FBI director's statement reveals the falsehood of President Reagan's administration, and his statement to ABC is considered as evidence that the allegations which this administration has spread through the CIA and the American press are false, testifying to President Reagan's foolishmess and clearly proving his lying and superficial mentality.

MOROCCO

COMMUNIQUE ON KUWAIT PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

LD011346 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Joint communique on the visit of Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah to Morocco 29-31 December]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, the crown prince and prime minister of the fraternal State of Kuwait, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco from 29 to 31 December 1981. His highness, the great guest, was welcomed at Marrakech Airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed; Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, members of the government, and Arab and Islamic diplomatic corps officials. The great guest visited Marrakech, Rabat, Casablanca, Fes and Tangiers. During this visit his highness and the accompanying delegation were accorded a great welcome and popular receptions, reflecting the depth of the fraternal ties linking the two fraternal countries and peoples.

His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah was received by His Majesty King Hassan II, to whom he conveyed a personal message from his brother, His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait. He and his majesty exchanged views on all issues of interest to the Arab and Islamic world in general, and on strengthening existing fraternal relations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the State of Kuwait in particular.

During this visit, official talks were held between His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, the crown prince and prime minister, and His Excellency Maati Bouabid, the prime minister of his majesty's government, with the participation of senior officials of the two fraternal delegations. The talks were characterized by a spirit of full cordiality and understanding, and dealt with bilateral relations, the current Arab situation and major international issues.

Regarding bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries, the two sides discussed ways likely to expand cooperation in all fields. They stressed their desire to further consolidate and reinforce relations between the two countries in various domains, in the interest and for the prosperity of the two fraternal peoples.

They decided to set up a joint ministerial committee, headed by the finance ministers of the two countries, which will meet once a year. The meeting will be held in Kuwait in the first quarter of 1982, with the aim of securing coordination and cooperation in the economic, financial, trade and industrial domains, in investments and in implementing projects agreed upon by the two sides. Minutes were signed on the completion of projects and development programs. An information agreement was also signed between the two countries. A cooperation program was drafted covering education, culture, youth links, sports and information, aimed at ensuring stronger ties between the fraternal countries.

Concerning the current Arab situation, the two sides reviewed the conditions facing the Arab cause and agreed on the need to strengthen inter-Arab cooperation and unity to face the persistent Israeli challenge. They paid tribute to the popular uprising in the occupied Palestinian lands and expressed their determination to continue supporting the struggle of the militant Palestinian people so they may achieve their legitimate rights, including the right to return, to self-determination and to set up their own independent state on national territory under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The two sides stressed the need to liberate holy Jerusalem so as to return it to Arab sovereignty and to what it was: a cradle for tolerance and coexistence among believers of all religions.

The Kuwaiti side expressed its support for the action of the Jerusalem committee, under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, and also its great appreciation for the efforts exerted by his majesty in favor of the holy city. The two sides discussed the grave situation resulting from the Israeli entity's decision to annex the Golan Heights. They stressed their denunciation and condemnation of this act which challenges the Arab nation, disregards international laws and standards and is an outright violation of UN resolutions. They expressed their determination to continue efforts to unify Arab ranks and strengthen inter-Arab solidarity in order to stand up to the Israeli challenge.

The two sides also reviewed the situation in Lebanon. They affirmed their solidarity with the fraternal Lebanese people and their support for all efforts to establish security and stability in Lebanon and to preserve its independence and territorial integrity under its lawful authority.

The two sides discussed the Gulf situation and the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council. They expressed their conviction on the need to keep this region free of international conflict. They also stressed that the security of the Gulf is a responsibility borne by its people. They also supported the council's steps with regard to cooperation and coordination among its states. They considered this as an example of Arab solidarity and a model to be followed in various parts of the Arab homeland.

In the Islamic field, the two sides reviewed the situation in Afghanistan and renewed their commitment to the resolutions of the Islamic summit conference. They expressed their hopes that the Muslim people of Afghanistan will be able to choose their political system free from any foreign intervention.

With regard to the raging war between the two Islamic states of Iraq and Iran, the two sides expressed their regret at the continuation of this war and at the losses in men and property. They expressed their support for all efforts to halt the battles and to establish peace and security between the two countries.

In the African field, the two sides expressed their determination to work for the consolidation of Arab-African relations and to back Arab-African cooperation in a manner that will ensure the interests of both the Arab and the African people and achieve their prosperity and progress. They also expressed their support for the struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa for their freedom and independence.

With regard to international questions, the two sides reviewed important issues. Their views were identical.

At the end of the visit, Ash-Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah expressed his thanks to His Majesty King Hassan II; His Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed, the government and the Moroccan people for the warm hospitality and reception accorded to him and the accompanying delegation.

He also expressed admiration and appreciation of the signs of progress he noted throughout the Moroccan Kingdom under the leadership of His Majesty King Hassan II.

He extended an invitation to Prime Minister Maati Bouabid to visit the State of Kuwait. The prime minister accepted the invitation with thanks and promised to fulfill it at a date to be fixed later.

Done in Rabat on 31 December 1981.

SUDAN

DISTURBANCES FORCE CLOSURE OF KHARTOUM SCHOOLS

JN041757 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Jan (SUNA) -- It has been decided to close down all secondary, intermediate and elementary schools in Khartoum district as of tomorrow, Tuesday, 5 January, until further notice. The minister of education and guidance and the Khartoum district officer have issued the following statement on the disturbances in the schools in the capital:

We have been watching the situation in the schools since yesterday morning. Students in schools in Omdurman and (Al-Mahdiyah) staged demonstrations during which they hurled stones at passers-by and vehicles causing damage to some vehicles. These disturbances escalated this morning when students of most of the schools in Khartoum, Omdurman and Khartoum north entered girls schools, forced them to join the demonstrations and threatened to strike their teachers. They resumed hurling stones at vehicles, gas stations and passers-by, which caused confusion in some places and encouraged some elements to set fire to some kiosks in the local market in Khartoum.

In view of this situation, which is a violation of order and regulations and a moral degeneration which does not benefit students, in order to protect the lives of young students and the citizens' property and to restore public order, it has been decided to close down all secondary, intermediate and elementary schools in the Khartoum district as of tomorrow morning, 5 January 1982, until further notice.

120 Shops Destroyed by Fire

JN041819 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1805 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Jan (SUNA) -- A huge fire destroyed some 120 shops in Khartoum's local market, causing heavy material losses but no human casualties.

Col Muhammad Sirr al-Khatim, head of Khartoum's fire brigade, said that the fire was premeditated and a result of today's sabotage and disturbances. Disturbances were created in Khartoum yesterday and today by students of secondary, intermediate and elementary schools in the wake of the announcement that sugar subsidies have been canceled in response to a recommendation by the World Bank. All schools will be closed as of tomorrow until further notice.

INA Correspondent's Report

JN041216 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 4 Jan (INA) -- The Sudanese capital today witnessed large demonstrations in which a large number of students took part to protest against the Sudanese Government's decision to raise the prices of some essential consumer commodities.

The INA correspondent said that a large number of citizens took part with the students in their demonstrations, roaming the streets of Khartoum and Omdurman.

The correspondent cited eyewitnesses as saying that violent clashes took place in some areas between demonstrators and policemen supported by military units.

Arrivals from outside the capital said that the demonstrations spread to the provincial capital yesterday and today in protest against the rise in prices of foodstuffs. The demonstrators condemned the price hikes, described them in their banners and shouted slogans as starvation measures and called for their cancellation.

The INA correspondent said that several ambulances and fire engines were seen driving fast along the capital's streets, something which indicates casualties. The correspondent added that unconfirmed reports said that acts of violence had taken place in several suburbs of the capital, particularly in the local markets. The Sudanese Government 5 years ago made similar decisions as a result of acts of violence.

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI COMMENTS ON CHAD, FAN, SSU

JN041539 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Jan (SUNA) -- President Numayri reiterated that Sudan will not allow Hissein Habre's forces, the FAN, to wage war from the Sudanese side of the Sudanese-Chadian borders.

In an interview with the magazine SUDANOW published in its January issue, President Numayri said Sudan would exert more effort toward convincing Hissein Habre to reach a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem. The president, however, said the Chadian Government must not consider Hissein Habre its enemy for considerations dealing with justice because any person finding no justice from his homeland will surely fight against it.

President Numayri called on the Ndjamena government to cooperate with other OAU members to achieve peace in Chad.

President Numayri said withdrawal of the Libyan forces, which supposedly should have been completed, was followed by [the entry of] neutral OAU forces to prevent any recurrence of the civil war. The Chadian Government must now continue to cooperate with the other OAU countries.

President Numayri added that, despite his meeting with delegations of the Chadian Government, he gives priority to knowing the [word indistinct] of the camps of Hissein Habre's supporters because anything unusual in this respect will lead to more domestic disturbances.

President Numayri stressed the importance of the presence of the African peacekeeping forces in Chad given that this presence provides a good opportunity to the Chadian parties to sit down together, to reach a peaceful solution and to form a provisional national government until elections are held in the country.

President Numayri also referred to Chad's urgent need for foodstuffs and supply commodities assistance, especially since Chad recently emerged from a civil war. President Numayri said, if assistance is given to Chad, then the Chadians can review the Libyan occupation of the northern sector of Chad and this question requires diplomatic solutions.

Asked his views about the situation in northeast Africa, President Numayri said he is of the opinion that the Ethiopian Government is giving due consideration to the concept of decentralization. He added that decentralization will end the struggle and will enable the Eritreans to return and rebuild the already devastated area.

President Numayri affirmed that the current guerrilla warfare can neither attain stability nor a definite victory over the Ethiopian forces, based on the fact that the guerilla warfare is of no avail. President Numayri advised the Eritreans to seize the opportunity of decentralization when it is made available and to utilize all their potentials for the interests of their homeland rather than for the sake of war.

In his interview, President Numayri revealed that a month ago, an armed group infiltrated into Sudan via the joint borders and created some security problems. It was natural to ask this group to lay down its arms before we accepted them as refugees.

Asked his opinion about the criticism levelled against the SSU, President Numayri praised the SSU in its capacity as a political body open to the masses. The SSU, the president added, has scored its greatest victories and successes in establishing the presidential republic [al-jumhuriyah ar-riyasiyah] and the People's Assembly as well as the other organs capable of working and contributing to the entire homeland.

President Numayri said that the SSU is not an organ set up to seize power. Rather, it was set up immediately following the eruption of the revolution with the aim of rebuilding the homeland and of abiding by its charter. The SSU is doing all this with high efficiency and capability.

On the hopes pinned on Sudan's economy, President Numayri said the sugar factories of Kinanah and Hajar al-'Asal have joined the sugar-producing association, adding that Sudan owns natural resources and manpower, indicating an ambitious development strategy.

President Numayri said, although Sudan is in need of small projects, it has to lay down the bases of the sugar industry in the country due to its huge capabilities in this field.

ETHIOPIA

FELLEKE DENIES CHARGES OF CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

NC050825 Paris AFP in English 0802 GMT 5 Jan 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 5 Jan (AFP) -- Ethiopia has strongly denied widespread charges in recent weeks that it is persecuting Christians, or that any have died because of a new policy of religious persecution.

The denial, the Marxist government's first response to accusations in the West that the November take-over of the headquarters of the country's largest Protestant denomination was a prelude to a major purge against Christians, came from Foreign Minister Felleke Gedle-Giorgis.

In an interview with AFP here Colonel Felleke also dismissed as "propaganda" a recent report carried by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) that 600 Christians had been killed in Ethiopia's western Wollega Province.

The minister conceded however that an unspecified number of "criminal elements" in religious circles had been detained and that churchmen had been warned to desist from acts of political sabotage.

Colonel Felleke said the take-over of the 8-storey headquarters of the Mekane Yesus Church and other churches, including an American Baptist one in central Addis Ababa, was in line with a July 1975 government decree nationalising all urban land and surplus houses. The action had been "delayed because of the inefficiency of implementing agencies", Colonel Felleke said. But he added, "We have not taken over any churches or places of worship and will not do so in the future."

Colonel Felleke noted that the Orthodox Church of Ethiopia, recognized as the national church before the country's 1974 Marxist revolution, had lost its entire land holdings and vast buildings and property in Addis Ababa and other cities. "Why should other religions demand or receive special privileges?" he asked.

Stressing that no religions or religious denominations had been banned by the government, Colonel Felleke warned however that this could not be ruled out if the clergy of unspecified foreign-based churches continued to harbour what he called "criminals, bandits or secessionists." He accused some churches, without naming them, of "anti-revolution, anti-government and anti-people" activities.

The government had "irrefutable evidence" that some religious establishments served as "arms caches," pitted one ethnic group or tribe against another, trained, armed and infiltrated guerrillas for "underground movements," distributed counter-revolutionary tracts and engaged in smuggling operations, Colonel Felleke said. He also accused them of making special efforts to turn the country's youth from the path of the revolution. "That the country's peace should be disturbed because of them is intolerable for us as it would be for any other government," the minister warned.

To justify the country's tolerance of religion, the foreign minister recalled that 600 churches of various Protestant denominations operated in Ethiopia's western Wollega Province alone. "They are free to pursue their Evangelical activities so long as they adhere to the country's policy of a separate church and state and respect its sovereign laws," Colonel Felleke said.

He added that he had explained his government's position to the ambassadors of several Western European countries at a recent meeting he called at the Foreign Ministry.

The take-over bid and the accusations of religious persecution surprises (?critics) having come during a year when Ethiopian authorities had welcomed several delegations from Western Europe and seemed poised to reopen the country to the West for the first time.

Ethiopia adopted Christianity in the fourth century and remained "an island of Christianity in a sea of Islam" even long after the Muslim religion swept the Near East and parts of Asis and Europe.

Even today, on popular Saint's days, as St. Gabriel's later this month, church attendance is so massive that it appears incredible that one of the world's most violent revolutions is in progress on a parallel scale.

UGANDA

OBOTE ANNOUNCES AMNESTY IN NEW YEAR MESSAGE

EA312050 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 31 Dec 81

["Text" of President Milton Obote's 31 December new year message to the nation -- read by announcer]

[Text] The year 1981 ends in a few hours' time. As we begin the new year of 1982, I send to all the people of Uganda, on behalf of the government and on my own behalf, congratulations for the achievements recorded in 1981.

During the first year, the government pronounced policies designed to uplift society from the depth of social and economic ruin of the past 10 years. These policies can be divided broadly into two. The first is directed toward providing facilities for all the people of Uganda and the second toward economic recovery. The government concentrated all its efforts during 1981 to the realization of both goals. There can be no change of policy during 1982. The two goals shall remain the basic policy.

Like in 1981, government efforts shall be intensified toward the achievement of those two goals. Internal security has improved considerably throughout the country. However, I wish to express and extend my sympathies to the families of persons who became victims of the violence during the year now ending. During the year, politically ill-motivated persons sought to destabilize society by resorting to violence and terrorist activities. These activities were not supported by the people of Uganda.

A human rights provision of the Constitution of Uganda provides that every person shall enjoy the right (?to life). Persons who believe in violence seek to deprive Ugandans of the right to life. It is therefore the duty of your government to stop them. To that end the government in the year now ending used two methods to deal with the situation. First, we made appeals in speeches, in rallies and elsewhere calling upon those violent men to (?turn) back and rejoin society in the reconstruction of our country. In the same context we also made appeals to Ugandans abroad to come home and to contribute their share in rebuilding a new Uganda, and I make the same appeal as we enter the new year.

Secondly, the government had to do its duty to provide security in areas threatened by banditry. Efforts can be increased to apprehend and to take to court the criminal elements in our society. The government is convinced that there are some people who were misled and persuaded to believe that the moral of violence had the support of the people. Such a belief, I am sure, is now recognized as completely false and baseless. Some of these tried to advance the cause of violence and were arrested. Many were charged before the court and others were released after investigations.

The government starts 1982 with a renewed call for reconciliation as a pillar of national unity. In this spirit I have today with the advice of the Cabinet exercised the presidential prerogative of mercy as provided for in the Constitution. Tomorrow, 1 January 1982, those persons who were persuaded to further the cause of violence during the year now ending and were arrested and are now in prison are to be released. It is on the basis of peace and stability that we can rebuild the economy and provide the necessary social services.

The government shall spare no efforts to ensure that each and every Ugandan in his vocation shall be fairly rewarded. We can turn the present economic difficulties through our collective efforts and hard work into prosperity.

Let 1982 be the year of peace and the cornerstone of Uganda's future prosperity. I commit the government to that goal.

For God and my country.

Receives Released Detainees

EA011916 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Text] Today his excellency the president of Uganda, Dr Milton Obote, gave a practical expression of the national policy of reconciliation when he received, among others, four opposition members of parliament who have been released in the exercise of president's prerogative of mercy. The meeting took place at parliamentary buildings in Kampala.

The president reminded them that the government is determined to maintain security, peace and stability in Uganda. He reiterated the government's respect for multiparty and parliamentary democracy and the right to life as provided in the Uganda Constitution. He further reminded them that during 1981 violent incidents had occurred in which many innocent ordinary people, children, mothers and men both old and young were either maimed or killed by [word indistinct] (?who) have no respect for the freely expressed view of the people of Uganda.

The president pointed out to them that he was not accusing them of any crime nor was he saying that they did not commit any offence. He noted that those who had arrested them had good reason for doing so. The president further pointed out that it was shameful for one to be in jail for any cause whatsoever but that the government has a responsibility to protect the lives and property of the Ugandan people. It was therefore the duty of the government to stop anyone who tries to deprive a Ugandan of his life.

He cautioned them that as Ugandan politicians we should avoid bloodshed or the politics of the gun because we have a constitutional system where the people are free to air out their views and choose a government through a ballot. He said government has no desire whatsoever to put anyone in prison unless he was found to undermine the security of the state.

The president challenged the released MPS to prove to the world, through their (?practice), that the allegations levelled against them are false. He however stressed that their release under the exercise of prerogative of mercy is totally unconditional.

He reminded all Ugandans that ever since the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] government came to power, over 4,000 prisoners, whom the government had found in jail, had been released.

Thanking the president and the government for their release, Prof Yoweri Kyesimira, on behalf of his colleagues, expressed sincere gratitude for the exercise of mercy that the president had done. He pledged that they are going to join tht government and all the people of Uganda in the reconstruction effort.

The others released are Mr (Y. Sabiti), MP, Mpigi west; Dr (Yusufu Semmambo), MP, Luwero central; Mr (Alex Waibale), MP, Jinja northwest; Mr (Patrick Wiseko), a leading DP [Democratic Party] party official; and Mr (Tom Lubale).

In the same meeting, the minister of housing and urban development, Hon Waligo, praised the president's compassionate and fatherly action and described it as a true expression of the UPC government's commitment to the national policy of reconciliation.

Present at this meeting were the ministers of information and broadcasting, Dr David Anyoti; of agriculture and forestry, Hon Amuel Mugwisa; the deputy minister of information and broadcasting, Hon Matia Kisembor, Ambassador Kamuntu and other government officials.

Promises 'Moderate' Policies

LD031908 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] President Obote has assured the people of Uganda that the government will continue to pursue the moderate domestic policies announced last year. The president made this assurance yesterday at Busoga Square, where he addressed his first public rally this year. Addressing himself to farmers, President Obote declared that his government will protect all peasants. The government will ensure that everything they produce are sold. In cases where the produce cannot be sold off immediately, the government will ensure that there are proper storage facilities. He assured farmers that the cooperative movement would be given facilities so that it trains its manpower.

Dr Obote dismissed the loose talk that Uganda is poor. He then went on to enumerate fertile land, people and cash crops as some of the resources available in Uganda in effective material development. He pointed out that poverty tried to creep into Uganda because of lack of good leadership for more than 10 years. President Obote then reminded all Ugandans that it was their responsibility to speak loud to their MP's what the people want.

On foreign policy, Dr Obote made it clear that there would be no change in the moderate policies announced last year. He said the government will not carry out any experiment in foreign policy. Dr Obote appreciated the assistance foreign countries and international organizations are giving Uganda. But he reminded all Ugandans that the most important assistance must come from within and that we must work together for our development.

LEADER IN FIGHTING AGAINST AMIN ARRESTED

AB011153 Paris AFP in English 1123 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Text] Kampala, 1 Jan (AFP) -- Ugandan security forces have arrested a former army officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Oboma, who led forces in Uganda fighting against the regime of Idi Amin in 1979, informed sources here said.

Lt Col Oboma, who is believed to he held in the Makindye military barracks near Kampala, led the combined Tanzanian troops and Ugandan exiles to within 40 miles (about 25 miles) of the Ugandan capital.

After the war, he was first appointed the Ugandan National Liberation Army's chief of logistics. He was made officer-in-charge of Moroto barracks, in northeastern Uganda, several months later but quit the post after six months and went to neighboring Kenya.

According to unconfirmed reports, Lt Col Oboma has been helping recruit guerrillas with the intention of overthrowing the government of President Milton Obote. He was reportedly picked up at a house in Nakawa just outside the capital and taken to Makindye.

GHANA

REPORT ON RAWLINGS 4 JAN PRESS BRIEFING

AB041853 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings declared today that the civilian administration misapplied the security agencies of the state and that the least that should be done now is to destroy it. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings was briefing the press at Burma Camp on the way the mass media was used by the security agencies in the deposed regime to divide and rule groups of civilian populations and the soldiers and their officers. He cited the way the press had been manipulated in its coverage of the escape of certain AFRC [Armed Forces Revolutionary Council] men from jail, the lies about tribal divisions among the troops, the alleged threats against journalists at GRAPHIC's office and the harassing of Capt Koffi Tsikata and said these were examples of how the Limann government was using intelligence maneuvers to solve the socioeconomic problems of Ghana. He said the lies the intelligence services told about him and some others were the type of lies they were prompted to spread about any true nationalist dedicated to fighting for the interest of his country. He said the proper role of the security agencies is to protect the nation and its people and not to fabricate lies.

He called on the mass media to play a constructive role designed to educate the broad masses of the population. The media must remove the atmosphere of mystery surrounding the function of government. They must bring government closer to the people.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings called upon Ghanaians not to surrender to others their right to rule themselves. They must be their own rulers this time, he said.

Answering questions from newsmen, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said he would make a broadcast later to give details about this call for the formation of a citizens defense organization alongside the national defense system.

Asked whether Nigeria would cut off oil supply to Ghana because of its government's possible hostility to the events in Ghana, he said since the aim of the two governments is to achieve socioeconomic balance, there is no reason why the events in Ghana should constitute a threat to Nigeria. The two governments should be complementing each other's efforts. But he said the people of Ghana are capable of making sacrifices if the need arises. They are ready to walk 10 miles to reach their workplaces if this will ensure their true independence.

PROVISIONAL NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

Curfew Hours

AB041208 Accra Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council has announced that the curfew hours are from 8 pm to 5 am instead of 6 pm to 6 am until further notice.

Non-Ghanaians' Activities

AB041325 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] All non-Ghanaians resident in Ghana have been reminded that the laws of the country specifically reserve certain sectors of economic activity to Ghanaians only.

The sectors are retail and petty trade, including the buying and selling of foodstuffs such as maize and rice, entertainments and sports, restaurant operations and night-clubs. The rest are advertising, foreign business representation and buying and selling of cocoa, coffee, sheanuts, colanuts, groundnuts and the exportation of any of these commodities.

A statement issued from the office of the Provisional National Defense Council said if any non-Ghanians are involved in any of those activities, they are advised to cease such activities with immediate effect to avoid any embarrassment to them.

Iron Rod, Cement Sales

AB041502 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has directed that until further notice the sale of cement and iron rods by the cement work and Tema steel work should be suspended. The council further directs the Ministry of Works and Housing to submit by 1200 noon tomorrow a full list in three copies of all ongoing government projects in the country.

Return of Government Advances

AB041455 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has asked all former members of the dissolved Parliament who after collecting their salaries and other allowances for the month of December and have since obtained salary advances to refund such amounts to the government treasury by 1200 noon on Wednesday.

Banks' Reopening

AB042020 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has directed that the banks are now free to transact normal banking business with the public as from tomorrow. However, persons and organizations whose assets and bank accounts have been frozen can only withdraw not more than 1 thousand and 3 thousand per month from their accounts. This has to be approved by the Attorney General's Department.

ALL PARTY ACTIVISTS TOLD TO REPORT TO POLICE

AB042030 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] All party activists of the proscribed parties in the country are to report themselves with all party vehicles to the Ghana military police headquarters near Lands Department immediately. Those in the regions are to report to the nearest military unit, police station and border guard posts without fail.

Chinebuah, Others Report

AB041433 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Seventeen more persons have reported to the cantonments police station as directed by the Provisional National Defense Council. The latest to do so include Dr Isaac Chinebuah, former minister of foreign affairs, and Miss Dedo Mate, former deputy minister of health.

Three members of the dissolved Parliament also reported. They are Mr Peter Ala-Adjetey, Kpeshie; Mr Francis Donkor Odzidzator, Gonja-East; and Alhaji Amadu Suleiman, Wale-Wale. Ten People's National Party functionaries also reported. This brings to 44 the number of persons who have so far reported at the contonments police station. According to the officer in charge they reported in their volition without molestations from anybody.

WORKERS DEMONSTRATE IN SUPPORT OF REVOLUTION

AB041425 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Demonstrations of support for the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] continue to be held in the streets of Accra. Truck loads of such demonstrators drove all the way from Tema this morning with placards and tree branches, chanting in support of the action by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings in toppling the Limann administration. Agnes Asante reports:

The demonstrations embraced workers from (guide), food complex, cargo handling cocoa product and the state fishing corporation. Others were the maritime and dock workers union, Ghana ports authority and deep sea (?ferries). The workers, in a very excited mood with white bands around their heads and necks, carried placards reading: "Well Done J.S.!," "No Makola!", and ("Careful) House Cleaning!"

The demonstrators, who went to the headquarters of TUC [Trade Union Congress] to present their resolution to their leadership, found the place deserted. There was not a soul in the whole building even though some of the offices had their doors open. In the resolution expressing no confidence in the TUC leadership, the workers called for the immediate suspension and dissolution of both the congress and the national unions. It also called for the timely dismissal of the chairman of the executive board, the secretary general, all national chairmen and their general secretaries and other officials. The resolution also accused the TUC leadership of dishonesty and failure to render accounts to the workers by not making available to the various workers unions copies of audited accounts.

In another paper headed "Demands by the Workers of Ghana," and signed by the acting executive secretary of the TUC, Mr (Amenu Felli), the workers suggested among others that ministerial responsibilities be assigned to civilians of good and reliable consequence and that steps be taken for the immediate and long-term solution of the deplorable trade situation in the country.

The workers warned all reactionaries both inside and outside Ghana that any attempt to reverse the revolution taking place in Ghana will be met with the full might of the workers.

RADIO SAYS 'LIFE QUITE NORMAL' AT MINISTRIES

AB042210 Accra Domestic Service in English 2200 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] Life at the ministries was quite normal today, the first working day since the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] assumed office.

In an interview with the principal assistant secretary at the office of the head of the civil service, Mr Katahena, he said attendance was far better than immediately after the Christmas holiday. He said his office has not received any directives from the new administration. It is waiting for the outcome of the meeting between the principal secretaries and the PNDC.

LAMPTEY REINSTATED INTO POLICE SERVICE

AB030819 Accra Domestic Service in English 0800 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] C.O. Lamptey, former inspector general of police, has been reinstated into the police service with immediate effect and assigned to the office of the Provisional National Defense Council.

NEWSPAPERS EXAMINE ASPECTS OF REVOLUTION

AB040826 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Press review]

[Text] The papers give full coverage to the policy statement made by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings in a radio broadcast on Saturday. They also carry on their front pages the directives from the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC].

The Ghanaian TIMES has a front-page story on the people's reaction to the revolution. According to the story, thousands of workers and students held a massive demonstration in Accra yesterday in support of the holy war aimed at ridding the Ghanaian society of all forms of corruption and indiscipline. The GRAPHIC also has a story on the demonstration in a center-spread.

Commenting on the policy statement by the PNDC, the GRAPHIC says one point stands out clear, namely: that the Limann administration had been characterized by denial of fundamental rights of Ghanaians to enjoy the wealth of their labor. The paper says nobody would have to be told about the poor state of the economy which has made workers and farmers, on whose sweat the nation's wealth is made, swing on the pendulum of economic uncertainty. While it cannot be said that the People's National Party administration is responsible for this, it cannot also be denied that the government decided to take its own slow time to find solutions to urgent and vital needs of the times. The GRAPHIC says that now that the Constitution is suspended, Parliament dissolved and political parties proscribed, the way is clear for the new revolutionary administration to forge a new deal for Ghanaians. On the country's international relations, the paper is happy that the new government has made it clear that the country is nonaligned and seeks friendship and cooperation with all other countries regardless of ideology. The GRAPHIC hopes that people would now get down to work to raise production, and the formula for doing this lies with the PNDC.

Writing under the heading "Toward Peace," the Ghanaian TIMES says all indications so far are that the PNDC is determined to prove to Ghanaians that the action taken by the armed forces is in the interest of the people. One clear indication is the order that no soldier on or off duty should harass any civilian or molest anyone. Another good sign is the considerate manner in which the curfew has been enforced so far. In the view of the TIMES, all this should be taken to mean that the PNDC is committed to ensuring a peaceful and orderly revolution. With the soldiers trying to sustain a peaceful cause, it is the responsibility of all civilians to reciprocate and let the soldiers of peace continue the forward march of the revolution. To achieve this, the TIMES urges all workers to go about their duties faithfully and refrain from being drawn into any conduct that might lead to unnecessary confrontation.

In a second editorial, the TIMES welcomes the reported decision by members of the Neoplan Driver Union in Kumasi to reduce their fares in response to the appeal by the PNDC. The paper says this demonstrates that the drivers recognize the merit of what a true people's revolution means: namely, salvation for the broad masses of the people. To make the revolution a reality, the TIMES says every Ghanaian owes it as a duty to himself and his fellow Ghanaians to accept the little sacrifices that would make living comfortable for all. The Neoplan drivers have taken the lead and it is to be expected that all other drivers would follow this good example. The same goes for all traders.

ADDITIONS TO RAWLINGS 31 DEC ANNOUNCEMENT

The following are additions to the item entitled "Rawlings 31 Dec Address Announces 'Revolution,'" published in the 31 December Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT on page T 1:

In the second paragraph, line one, add: "...time by recounting a whole lot of misdeeds, a whole lot of callous things some of us have gone through."
In line eight, substitute for [words indistinct]: "but, thank God, sometimes these things never worked out."
In line nine, add: "...the security agencies all together again with the approval...."

On page T 2, first paragraph, line three, change "life of Africa" to "light to Africa."
In line four change "all this campaign has" to "all these campaigns have...."
In the penultimate line, substitute for [words indistinct]: "...Quainoo to report to defense, MOD -- Ministry of Defense, right now!"

NIGERIA

PAPERS COMMENT ON RAWLINGS' COUP IN GHANA

AB040934 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Jan 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The latest coup d'etat in Ghana attracts comments from the Nigerian TRIBUNE and also the HERALD. The two papers identify Ghana's major problems as economic deterioration which, from all indications, coupled with political turbulence, have almost brought activities in that part of the world to a standstill. They maintain that the ousted president, Dr Hilla Limann, could not have easily transformed the country overnight into a paradise as is the wish of some people, since according to them, the ex-leader inherited an already ailing economy. The TRIBUNE decries the killing that accompanied and calls on Flight Lt Jerry Rawlings and others concerned to return the country to normalcy without further delay.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAUNCHED IN KADUNA STATE

AB041628 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] The newly-created (Karu) local government in Kaduna State has been launched. On the occasion a member of the state legislature, Daniel Kalimou, urged the people of the area to embark on projects aimed at developing their community. More than 10,000 naira was realised at the launching. And at (Mayhaboua) about 16,000 naira was collected at the formal launching of the newly-created local government.